*Sabbati* 4^to *Die Decembriis*, 1680.

I Do Appoint *Samuel Heyrick*, *Thomas Dring*, and *John Wickins*, to Print this Collection of Letters and other Writings, Peruſed by me according to the Order of the Honorable HOUSE of COMMONS; and that no other Perſon preſume to Print the ſame.

GEO. TREBY.

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A

# COLLECTION

OF

# LETTERS

AND OTHER

# WRITINGS,

RELATING TO

## The Horrid Popish Plott:

Printed from the ORIGINALS in the Hands

OF

## George Treby Esq;

Chairman of the COMMITTEE of *Secrecy*

Of the HONOURABLE

## House of Commons.

Published by Order of that House.

*LONDON*,

Printed for *Samuel Heyrick* at *Grays-Inn* Gate in *Holborn*, *Thomas Dring* at the *Harrow*, and *John Wickins* at the *White Hart* in *Fleet-Street*. MDCLXXXI.

# TO THE READER.

THE Letters and Writings here publiſh'd are indubitably authentick. They were all (except thoſe of which account is given at the end) found and ſeized in Mr. Coleman's Houſe at the time of his Commitment, and owned by himſelf; and particularly at his Tryal; when ſeveral of the Letters written by and to him were produced and read, and then mark'd by the Clerk of the Crown with Lect. pro Rege, as is here printed in the Margins. And they were by his Majeſties Order delivered to the Houſes of Parliament, and thence delivered to the Committee of Secrecy.

Alſo the hand-writing of Mr. Coleman, the Cardinal of Norfolk, Mr. Leyburne, Sir William Throgmorton, and the late Earle of Barkſhire, by the name of William Rice, have been proved by Teſtimony of ſuch Witneſſes as well knew the ſame.

The Letters writ by Mr. Coleman are printed from the Original draughts, written by him in French, and tranſlated by Order of the Privy Council; and ſuch of the Letters ſent to Mr. Coleman which were written in French, were tranſlated either by the ſame Order, or by Order of one of the Houſes of Parliament.

The Letters writ by Mr. Coleman were read in the Houſe of Commons in this and the two laſt Parliaments, and the reſt either read, or in ſubſtance reported in this and the laſt Parliament, by their Orders.

In moſt of theſe Letters the principal and material words and names of Perſons and Places were writ in Cypher, but have been exactly decypher'd by the Keys or Tables which were found together with them.

# To the Reader.

*In ſeveral of them there were uſed* Figurative *words, or words of* Cabal; *the meaning of which, is conjectured from the Tenor and Sence of the Correſpondence, as* (*in the* Allegories *uſed between Mr.* Coleman *and the* Nuntio) *the word* Creditors *appears to ſignifie Adverſaries*; Debtors, *Friends*, East-India Company, *the Paliament*; *and* Trade *and* Traffique, *the adminiſtration of publick Affairs.* So Suit, *appears to ſignifie conteſting* (*eſpecially in Parliament*) *concerning the* Popiſh Intereſt; definitive Sentence, *gaining the point in that Conteſt. And in the like* Metaphorical *Sence, are uſed* Proceſs, Lawyers, Advocates, *&c.*

*The Correſpondents in theſe Letters, do ſeldom uſe the* First *Perſon, when they mention themſelves*; *or the* Second *Perſon, when they mean him to whom it is written, but they uſe the* Cypher *of their Names for the Perſons. And accordingly they are decypher'd and render'd in the* Third *Perſon. As in the* Cardinals *Letters to Mr.* Coleman, *it is written that the* Cardinal *of* Norfolk *did ſo, and Mr.* Coleman *ſhould do* thus, &c.

*The* Houſe of Commons *intended and directed Exactneſs of Truth in this* Publication. *In obſervance of which not only Mr.* Coleman's *but the Letters of the* Cardinal *and others, which contain ſeveral paſſages not directly relating to the* main *Deſign, are publiſh'd* at large, *ſo as they ſtand repreſented to the World without any other diſadvantage than what is inherent in* themſelves. *But ſeveral Letters of Mr.* Leyburn, *and ſome of the Letters of others of the leſſer Correſpondents, being ſtuft with common and ordinary News, that News, and* that *only is omitted in this Print.*

*Some of the Letters ſeized at Mr.* Coleman's *are not decypherable by all or any of the* Keys *found, of which, however* one *is thought fit to be publiſht, which is inſerted towards the end.*

Geo. Treby.

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*From*

# A LETTER

FROM

*Mr.* Coleman *to the* French *King's Confessor,*
June *the* 29th 1674.

I AM commanded to tell you, That his *Royal Highness*, my *Master*, is very sensible of the Friendship of his *most Christian Majesty*, which he will endeavour to cultivate very *carefully*, and to give him all possible *Assurances* of it, to take away all *Jealousies* that his Enemies would raise to the contrary. *Lett. pro Rege.*

That his Royal Highness has done nothing in any manner whatsoever, nor in any place, against the Interest of his *most Christian Majesty*, but hath rendred him all the *good Offices* he hath been capable of.

That as for recalling the *Parliament*, and touching my Lord *A*---- his Highness is altogether of the opinion of his Majesty, that neither one nor other is useful, but quite contrary, very dangerous as well for *England* as *France*, and that his *most Christian Majesty* is in great danger of losing the *Neutrality* of *England*, at the *next Session*, (if the Parliament meet) as he lost its *Alliance* by the *Peace of Holland* at the *last*; because the *Lower House* and their Friends (as the furious Protestants, and the Malecontents in the House of Lords) have a Design to lessen his *Royal Highness*, and root out the *Catholick Religion*, and they think they cannot make use of any other fitter means to attain their End, than to *raise* the *Dutch*, and to *perplex his most Christian Majesty*, as much as lyes in their Power.

That his Highness doubts not, but it is absolutely necessary for the Interest of his *most Christian Majesty*, and his *Royal Highness*, to use all endeavours to hinder the *meeting of the Parliament*,

by perſwading his *Britannick Majeſty*, that *his* Greatneſs, *his* Honour, and *his* Quiet, are no leſs concerned therein, than *theirs*; So that if his *moſt Chriſtian Majeſty* would write freely his thoughts thereupon to his *Br. Majeſty* to forewarn him of the Danger he apprehends from thence, and would withal think fit to make him the ſame generous offers of his *Purſe*, to perſwade him to diſſolve the *preſent Parliament*, as he hath done to his *Highneſs* for the Election of another, perhaps he would ſucceed therein by the Aſſiſtance we would give him here.

As for another Parliament, it would be eaſie enough to get ſuch an one as we wiſh for, the Conſtitutions of our Parliaments being of ſuch a nature, that as there is nothing to be hoped for by the King, from an *old* one, ſo there is nothing to be feared from a *new* one, becauſe ſuch an one at their firſt meeting muſt needs aſſiſt his Majeſty, ſo far as to *inable* him to acknowledge his Obligations both to his *moſt Chriſtian Majeſty* and to all the World.

Now, although there is nothing in the World more true, or plainer than this, ſome, nevertheleſs carried on, either by their particular Intereſt, or by their meer Malice, and the hatred they have conceived againſt thoſe they have ſo far offended, as to *deſpair* of their Pardon, are reſolved rather to ſacrifice the Honour of their King, and his Kingdome, than to ſhew him the danger he is running into, and the means to avoid it, leſt they themſelves ſhould *fall into the hands* of thoſe that have long taken notice of their Baſeneſs.

However, his Royal Highneſs will endeavour by his Care and good Offices to entertain a very *good underſtanding* with the King, his Brother, as he hath alwayes done, and lately, with ſo much ſucceſs, that methinks, he endears himſelf more and more every day.

For *Monſieur Rouvigny*, his Highneſs hath nothing to ſay againſt him: As he ſeems to underſtand the *Intereſt* of his *Maſter*, and to follow it with great Obſervancy, he cannot by conſequence thwart *Ours*: when we ſhall have any thing material to ask or to propoſe to you, you ſhall know it, and we will truſt to the *Promiſes* of your help. I deſire you from *my Maſter*, to deal with us with the ſame *freedom* and *confidence*, and be aſſured, that notwithſtanding all the Rogueries and Follies of ſome People here and there, you will find us always juſt, and *Religiouſly* faithful.

*From*

## *From Mr.* Coleman, *to the* French *King's Confessor, without Date, but noted by him to have been written in Answer to a Letter of* 25 *Septemb.* 1674.

HIS *Royal Highness* has received the Letter that you sent him by Sir *William Throckmorton*, which he has answered to you *himself*; and besides, he hath commanded me to testifie to you, the great esteem he hath for the Friendship of his *most Christian Majesty*, and for *yours*, and to assure you, that he will not fail to cultivate it with all his power; and that preferring the sincere Faith of a *Christian*, and the word of a *Man of Honour*, before all *Subtilties*, and even all the *advantages* of the World, he gives you them *both*, as a Pledge of the ardent desire he has to continue alwayes a strict Alliance with *his most Christian Majesty*, and to entertain also an intimate Correspondence with *you*. *Lett. pro Rege.*

For the first point of your Letter, his *Royal Highness* has commanded me to tell you, that he will govern himself according to *your Advice*, and treat of nothing concerning the *Catholick Religion* with *Monsieur Rouvigny*, nor with any other Person than your self, but that he will communicate to you all things he shall find necessary for the good of *the Catholicks*, and shall be very well pleased to receive Advices from you thereupon.

For the rest, his *Royal Highness* does a little wonder, that he hears nothing from *Monsieur Rouvigny* touching the *second* point of your Letter, since you have written so positively, that he had order to confirm, and procure execution of what his most Christian Majesty proposed to him the second of *June last*, by your Mediation, and you by that of Sir *William Throckmorton's*. He (*His R. H.*) has omitted, till this time, to acquaint you with the small success that he has had, as expecting daily that *M. Rouvigny* would impart to him the Commission of which you made mention to him in your Letter; but having heard nothing yet of that matter, and being obliged to go out of Town for 15 dayes or three Weeks, he thinks fit to send you back Sir *William Throckmorton*, to acquaint you with the progress of this Business, and to pray you to inform your self of what has been able to hinder it.

His *most Christian Majesty*, made a very generous offer to his Royal Highness of the *assistance of his Purse*, to inable him to defend *them both* from the Evils that threatned them, and by good luck,

luck, his Royal Highneſs has labour'd with ſo much diligence and ſucceſs, that the Dangers which they apprehended are a little put off; but *one* thing more is neceſſary for the perfect ſecuring their Affairs; and without making one ſtep *more*, all that he has *already* done will ſignifie nothing. For that the Aſſiſtance of his *moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*, is no leſs neceſſary at preſent, than heretofore, to *ſubdue intirely* thoſe, who being exaſperated againſt his *moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*, as much as againſt his *Royal Highneſs*, and are angry with his Royal Highneſs, onely becauſe he is ſo *unalterably* addicted to the Intereſt of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, will exerciſe their Malice and their Rage with more *brutality* than ever, if they find occaſion for it hereafter.

If you can therefore, by your Credit, obtain from his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty the accompliſhment of the offer of his *Purſe*, for raiſing the Reputation of his Royal Highneſs, in the opinion of his *Britannick Majeſty* and for putting him in condition to reſiſt the ſharpeſt Batteries of the Adverſaries of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty and Royal Highneſs, to wit, the *poſſibility* they pretend to get Money from the Parliament, and the *impoſſibility* of having any elſewhere, by which they often keep the mind of his *Britannick Majeſty* in ſuſpence, and wherein they place the hope they have to conquer him at laſt.

There will nothing more remain to be feared by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, or his Royal Highneſs, but his *Royal Highneſs* will be able to diſſolve the Parliament with eaſe and afterwards, in recompence of the ſaid *Aſſiſtance*, will perform on his part all that his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty ſhall *ask* of him, and will proceed with *Sincerity* upon the Word of a *Prince* (that no man can reproach him with the violation of) for the Intereſt of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty.

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## *A Letter from Mr.* Coleman *to the* Internuncio, *July* 24. 1674.

THE Affairs of the Duke are at this time as formerly, in a very uncertain condition. He hath many *Enemies*, and alſo ſome *Friends*, amongſt whom, he particularly eſteemeth *you*, having a great Confidence in *your* Amity, of which he hopeth to find the good Effects when he ſhall have occaſion to demand your

*Aſ-*

*Aſſiſtance*, but truly, in the preſent Conjuncture, there is nothing more than to make you underſtand the *Eſtate* in which he is at preſent, and the ſtate of the *Catholicks*, and to let you conſider what your Friends can do for the Comfort of the one and the other; the firſt is now very well, becauſe of the *putting off the Parliament*, and of the uncertainty whether that Party ſhould take occaſion to perſecute him upon this Affair, or not; if he can deliver himſelf from this difficulty, he will *re-eſtabliſh* himſelf better than ever, and ſhall be capable, not onely to manage his *proper* Affairs, as before, but alſo to teſtifie his Acknowledgments to *thoſe* who have been favourable to him in his misfortune; but if this Affair is brought again upon the ſtage, he will be ſo inabled, that he will have all his Adverſaries upon his Back, which at preſent are Civil enough to him, and do run a great Riſque to be ruined with his; all this dependeth on the King, who pretendeth to be effectually the *Duke's Friend*, but does nevertheleſs hold an *intimate correſpondence* with his *Enemies*, and too openly declareth himſelf ſometimes, which makes us miſtruſt, that he is perſwaded that his Intereſt is altogether *oppoſite to ours*, but we muſt not *deſpair*. God is *mighty*, and the innocence of this poor, miſerable —— too evident, to permit him to be abandoned of all the World. If, by your means, you can gain the *Emperour* and the *Pope* to the Duke, for his Aſſiſtance, or to contribute ſomething for the accomodating of the differences between his Friends of *Spain* and *France*, (which cannot give him any *Succor*, becauſe of the infortunate *War*, in which they are ingag'd) you will merit much of God, and of all the Friends of the poor *Catholicks*, who are reduced almoſt to deſpair, and are tormented every day by their *Enemies*, and will be conſtrained to fall every day under the burthen of their *miſeries*, if they are not upheld by ſome means: Their condition and that of the Duke are alike in *many things*, but do differ in *this*, that *they* have many Enemies, which may, every of them in particular, be againſt the Catholick Cauſe for the Parliament, whereas the Duke, being onely engaged for the *others*, ſhall not be obliged to do any thing, at leaſt, that he ſhall not be condemned by the Parliament, all the others being of the ſame nature, ſo that none ſhall attacque him in the *laſt*, before this *firſt* is determined, becauſe, that if the Proceſs comes to be determined in his *favour*, *our Laws give him a great advantage againſt them which ſhall have the boldneſs to trouble him thereupon*. This is

all that I can ſay at preſent of the Affair of the Duke, and of the Catholicks, which I recommend to you with *all my heart*, aſſuring you, that ſince *Chriſtianiſm*, there hath not been any Affair neither more to be *pitied*, or more worthy of all the Cares and Zeal of good People, than this of which I now ſpeak to you. If you have the ſame Sentiment, you will take a great part in the Affairs of our Friends, and you will endeavour to apply all the moſt *proper Remedies* to make them *ſucceed*.

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## *From the* French *King's Confeſſor to Mr.* Coleman.

### Paris, *September* 15. 1674.

SIR,

*Lec' pro Rege.* I *AM very much obliged to you for the Letter you were pleaſed to write me concerning my Sickneſs. It was long and troubleſome, and that which troubled me moſt during the long continuance of it, was, to find my ſelf unable to take care of that Affair you gave me a memorial of, with as much diligence as I could wiſh. But, being after all arrived here, I reſolved to ſend an Extract of the Memorial, becauſe I was not able to carry it my ſelf, which has been very lucky, thanks be to God, as you will ſee by the Letter I write to his* Royal Highneſs. *Sir* William Throgmorton *goes expreſs with it. I pray acquaint his Highneſs, that this Knight has managed this Affair with all the Zeal, Fidelity, and Prudence poſſible, that his Highneſs may remember him upon occaſion, as a Perſon much addicted to him. For Mr.* Bernard, *that ſtayes here, and whom you have recommended, I pray be not further concerned for him: The firſt occaſion that offers, he ſhall find the Eſteem I have for his Zeal and Wiſdom, and for the recommendation of his good Friends. I am in the mean while*

Sir,

Your moſt humble and
moſt obedient Servant

*J. Ferrier.*

*From*

## *From Mr.* Coleman *to the Pope's* Internuncio.

### *Aug.* 21. 74.

YOU expect that the Duke ſhould let you know what your Friends can do for his Service; I told you the laſt Week my Opinion concerning the Eſtate of the Pope, in caſe the Proceſs of the Parliament be judged to his diſadvantage. And I have likewiſe told you what Opinion all the World hath as to that matter, that is to ſay, that it was abſolutely loſt. *Lec. pro Rege.*

But, for my part, not being of ſo timorous a nature as others, I do not believe ſo, but am of opinion, that it is not impoſſible to overcome our Adverſaries, in ſpight of all the confidence they have of Succeſs. But the Victory which I hope for is, to be able to prevent the Buſineſs coming before the Parliament, that it be not begun at all, rather than to gain the point, if it ſhall be brought upon the ſtage. For the Fury of the Perſecutors is ſuch, that they will make uſe of all means imaginable, as well Evil as Juſt, to gain their point. And I have too much reaſon to ſuſpect the Integrity of our Judges in that Affair, for I plainly perceive, they naturally incline to the ſide of our Adverſaries. And I dare put no confidence in the Aſſiſtance of the King, after ſo many Demonſtrations as he hath given us of his weakneſs, as to that matter. And it is from theſe three Cauſes; that is to ſay, the Fierceneſs of our Adverſaries, the Injuſtice of our Judges, and the Weakneſs of the King, that we are to expect ſuitable Effects. So that we ſhall have very little hopes of ſucceſs, having ſo many Difficulties to contend with, in caſe the Parliament ſhould meet. Wherefore it will be neceſſary to provide ſome Support among his Friends of your Acquaintance, if his Affairs ſhould be too far puſht to ſuffer him to be in quiet here. All thoſe who have had any Correſpondency with him are at preſent in great ſuſpence, and in pain to know what Succeſs the Buſineſs abovementioned is like to have. If the Duke ſucceeds in what he pretends to, they will be more fix'd to him than ever; if he fails, all his Creditors fall upon him in a moment, and he and his Catholick Aſſociates will be abſolutely ruin'd, for it is he alone upon whom all the reſt do intirely depend: So that it is for him

him and his Affairs, that all our Friends ought to employ their Care to keep him up, that he may ſubſiſt. We have none with us that regard the Merit, but the Succeſs of things. So that if the Duke can happily diſingage himſelf of thoſe Difficulties wherewith he is now incumbred, all the World will eſteem him an able man, and all People will intruſt him in their Affairs more willingly than they have done formerly. And the King himſelf, who hath more influence on the *Eaſt India* Company, than all the reſt, will not only re-eſtabliſh him in the Employment he had before, but will put the Management of all his Trade into his hands. By which means, he will have opportunity to enrich himſelf, and all his Catholick Aſſociates, with all their Correſpondents. So that 'tis of great conſequence, (that thoſe who owe him the Sums of) the Emperour and the Pope aſſiſt the Duke with a little Sum of Money, to put him in a condition to re-eſtabliſh himſelf in the Management of the King's Affairs, and to endeavour to Compoſe the Differences between his two Friends of *Spain* and *France*; So that they may be in a condition to ſupport him in his juſt and worthy Deſign, to begin and eſtabliſh a new Traffick very advantagious to the whole World, and particularly the Kingdom of *England*, which, at preſent, is unhappily divided, for want of being employed as it ought to be, and as it will be in little time after it ſhall have taſted the ſweetneſs of that Profit which it ſhall find by the Managery of the Duke and his Aſſociates, being aſſiſted by his Friends and yours, and principally by the Church. We have in agitation great Deſigns, worthy the conſideration of your Friends, and to be ſupported with all their Power, wherein we have no doubt but to ſucceed, and, it may be, to the utter ruine of the Proteſtant Party, if you joyn with us in good Earneſt, and cordially ſecond our Enterprizes. The Affair is too long to give you all the Particulars of, but, without doubt, you will underſtand much of it by the little which you find here.

*Septemb.*

## *Septemb.* 4. 1674.

*Jo. Nicholas,*

AT preſent (Sir) We are returned again to *London*, where we ſhall be, as I hope, leſs embarraſſed than at *Windſor*, and by conſequence, ſhall have more leiſure to entertain our Correſpondents for the future, than we have had before. Since our return I have received your Letters of the one and twentieth of *Auguſt*, and fourth of *September*, and three others from our Friend, through whoſe hands you ſent me yours. I wonder whence it comes that they have loſt their way thus, but I conceive that he directed them to his Correſpondent here, inſtead of addreſſing them immediately to me, or to Mr. *Jerome Boteman*; I will advertiſe him of it this day, the better to ſettle our Correſpondence for the future; 'tis true, that I did not write till this preſent as I intended, fearing leſt you ſhould have forgotten what I ſaid thereupon, when I was at your Houſe, but being delivered from that fear, I will not fail hereafter to treat you with that Liberty and Freedom you have permitted me to uſe towards you, having no other Deſign, than to obey you as I ought, being

You will wonder, without doubt, at the Freedom I take in this Letter, and at my Confidence, and, perhaps, will eſteem it as a mark of my Weakneſs, judging thereby, that I accuſtom my ſelf to treat others in the like manner, and to open my mind, without diſtinction, to all who make profeſſion to me of their Friendſhip and Sincerity. But, Sir, I deſire you not to believe me guilty of ſo great Lightneſs and Folly, if I ſha'l let you know my moſt ſecret Thoughts. And firſt, to anſwer the Queſtion in your Letters, touching the Concerns of the Catholicks before the Parliament; *viz. Whether they will come in Debate again in the Month of* I aſſure you, there is none but my ſelf, either Friend or Enemy of the Duke's, who doth not believe certainly, that that Buſineſs will be begun again at the time aforeſaid, and that it will terminate to the utmoſt prejudice of the Duke, and of the Catholicks. For my ſelf, I am alone of the opinion, that it will not then be taken up; at leaſt, I will do my utmoſt to prevent it; although I know well that the *Spaniſh* Miniſter, and all thoſe who are for the Intereſt of *Spain*, and the Confederates

( wherof ſome notwithſtanding are very good Friends to the Catholicks ) will do all they can to prevail with the King to purſue the ſaid Buſineſs, preferring their Malice and Enmity againſt *France*, ( which will, as they believe, be overwhelmed thereby ) before their Love to the Duke and the Catholicks; who will certainly by that means be in great danger to be quite ruined. As for my ſelf, I am neither tied to the Intereſt of *Spain* nor *France*, but intirely to that of the Pope and the Catholicks; but pardon me, if I tell you freely, that I believe that the whole Proceeding of *Spain* in this Conteſt with *France*, is viſibly to the great prejudice, as well of the Pope and the Catholicks, as his own Intereſt, and that He hath been long deceived by his Miniſters and Aſſociates, who have expoſed him, during this whole Affair, to vaſt Expences, and have brought all the Burden upon him, and in the end will quit him in his extremity, if He doth not take heed betimes. All his Friends on this ſide have foreſeen a good while what is faln out of late, and have been much afflicted to ſee two Gentlemen, of equal Merit, of the ſame Parentage, and of the ſame Intereſt, ſo tranſported one againſt the other, as to expoſe themſelves to the Deriſion of their Neighbours, who have alwayes been, and who are at preſent inwardly ( what ſhew ſoever they make in appearance ) Enemies to both. In ſhort, I believe that it is not Prudence in *Spain* to ſuffer it ſelf to be thus governed by the Paſſion of its Miniſters, to its own Damage, and the ruine of its beſt Friends, rather than to agree with *France*, becauſe it hath been perfidious, altho *Spain* may have all the Aſſurances imaginable, that *France* will act honeſtly for the future, like a good Neighbour, a kind Relation, and a moſt faithful Friend. The Duke's principal Deſign is, to terminate this Difference by the Interpoſition of the Pope, and by that means to eſtabliſh himſelf in the poſſeſſion of his Eſtate, through their Aſſiſtance, and to turn all their Cares, ( which at preſent are employ'd to deſtroy each other ) for the Eaſe of the Pope's Friends, and particularly for the Catholicks of the Church, againſt their great Enemies. If you pleaſe to conſider the Affair as it is, you will find that the Pope never had an occaſion ſo favourable as at this Hour, to inrich thoſe of his Family, and to augment the number of his Friends, and if he lets it ſlip, he will never find the like: ſo that if ever they propoſe to make uſe of the Treaſure of the Church, 'tis now they ought to do it, for they can demand nothing that the Duke will not be capable to do for the Pope's Friends; and the Emperour, being aſ-



ſiſted

ſifted, as I ſaid: On the other ſide, without their Aid, He will run great hazard of being loſt, both himſelf and his Aſſociates. This is all I can ſay.

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## *From Mr.* Coleman *to the Pope's* Internuncio.

### *September* 11. 1674.

SIR,

I Have received yours of the 7th Inſtant, by which you do me the Honour to deſire the continuance of News from us, in which I will willingly obey you, nothing being more agreeable to me than to ſerve you.

On *Tueſday* was ſevenight our Commiſſioners and thoſe of *Holland* (who are to adjuſt the Commerce of both Nations to the *Eaſt Indies*) entered upon that Affair.

*Friday* laſt the Privy Council met again (the King preſent) being the firſt time ſince his Majeſty adjourned them at *Hampton-Court*, about five or ſix Weeks ago) and for the future they will meet regularly, as heretofore.

The third Son of the Dutcheſs of *Cleaveland*, known hitherto by the name of my Lord *George Fitz Roy*, hath been lately made Earl of *Northumberland*, Viſcount of *Falmouth*, and Baron of *Pomfret*. *Don Carlos*, another of the King's Natural Sons, will be created Earl of *Plymouth*, but his Letters Patents are not yet ſigned.

An *Iriſh* man, named *Cuſſack*, in a ſmall Veſſel of 13 men, had the boldneſs (the laſt Week) to take a *Scotch* Ship in our River, near *Sheerneſs*, and got off: But the Yacht called the *Merlin*, purſuing the ſaid *Cuſſack*, and took him, ſo that he and his thirteen men are to be treated as Pirates.

*Saturday* laſt, Sir *Jonathan Atkins*, Governour of *Barbadoes*, ſailed from *Portſmouth* to take poſſeſſion of his Charge. His Majeſty will go to *New Market* about the end of this Month, to divert himſelf with Hunting, Horſe races, and the other divertiſements of the Place and Seaſon.

Yeſterday the Earl of *Arlington* took poſſeſſion of his Charge of Lord Chamberlain of his Majeſties Houſhold, his Majeſty having delivered him the Staff, and this day he hath complemented their Royal Highneſſes, and hath received the Viſits and Congratulations of all his Relations, and Grandees of the Court.

Sir

Sir *Joſeph Williamſon* ſucceeds him in the Charge of Secretary of State, for which he hath taken the ordinary Oath, and hath this day taken his place in Council.

As for the Proceſs of your Friend, for which I was in great apprehenſion when I writ to you on the one and twentieth of the laſt Month, it is at preſent (as I hope) in a better condition than formerly; and although his Adverſaries proſecute him with as much vigour, and more confidence than ever; nevertheleſs, I do not doubt but the Lawyers of Mr. ---- will find out ſome means to avert the danger for the preſent, in deferring it at leaſt for ſome Months; and then it's to be hoped, that his Enemies will begin to hear reaſon; and that thoſe who had a Deſign to make uſe of this ill Conjuncture to ſatisfie their Malice, under the ſpecious pretext of obtaining their pretended Debts, and ſecuring their Trade, will ſee, perhaps, that it is not ſo eaſie to maintain a Cheat, and ruine (by their tricks) honeſt People, ſupported by Juſtice and Innocence, as they imagined, after having got that point.

Your Friends, the *Emperour* and the *Pope*, will have a fair occaſion of giving marks of their Friendſhip to Mr. ---- by joyning their Credit and Intereſt to his, to make the great Deſign (which he hath ſo long meditated, ſucceed, to undermine the Intrigues of that Company of Merchants, who trade for the *Parliament* and the Religion, and to Eſtabliſh that of the aſſociated *Catholicks* in every place, which may be done (without any great trouble) if the *Emperour* and the *Pope* will grant him their aſſiſtance, and that *Spain* will not too obſtinately oppoſe him; as he hath hitherto done, to his own prejudice; of which I freely told you my Opinion in my laſt, of the Third Inſtant. A little time will now let us ſee the Trade of all Affairs of this nature more clearly than at preſent; In the mean time, you ſee the Confidence and Liberty I uſe with you, *&c.*

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## *From Mr.* Coleman *to the* Internuncio, Octob. 23. 1674.

*Lec' pro Rege.* YOU agree with me, that Money is the onely means of bringing the King into the Duke's Intereſt, and of diſingaging him from the Parliament, and you muſt alſo agree with me, that nothing can more promote the Intereſt of the Catholick Party, which is the principal Object of the Duke's Care and Affection, and of the

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Hatred of the Parliament, and which muſt hope or fear, according as the one or the other of them increaſe in Power.

Now the Power would be unalterably eſtabliſhed in the Duke, if the King were reſolved to give him his Aſſiſtance in one or two things, ſo that if Money can prevail with him to act in the Duke's favour, and to abandon the Parliament, the Catholicks will find themſelves at great eaſe about it. And if that be the only way to gain the King, that without him the Duke will be in great danger of being ruin'd, and all the Catholicks with him, it imports much to the Duke's Friends, and to the Catholicks, that nothing be omitted for the ſecuring to them aſſiſtance of Mony, as above mentioned. But how ſhall one get it? There's the difficulty. For my part, I do not doubt (notwithſtanding the Diſcourſe which we had together, when I had the honour to ſpeak with you upon this Subject, and when we proceeded upon other Propoſitions than now we do) but that the Pope may do it effectually, if he think fit to employ his whole Power, becauſe Money, which is intirely at his command, is more than ſufficient to make the Prerenſions of the Duke and the Catholicks ſucceed; beſides that, the Pope hath many other means to attain the favour of Money.

But before it be endeavoured to perſwade the Pope to ingage himſelf in things of this nature, he muſt firſt be made to underſtand, that the aſſiſtance which he ſhall give the Duke ſhall be hindred from becoming ineffectual to the Catholicks, either by the lightneſs of the King, or by any other means, and that it ſhall be ſo ordered, as to produce infallibly (or at leaſt, very probably) the Effects which we wiſh for from it.

As for the firſt, nothing in the World is more certain, than that the King has a good inclination towards the Duke and the Catholicks, and would joyn himſelf willingly, and inſeparably to their Intereſts, if he did not apprehend ſome danger from ſuch a Union, which, however, he would not have any cauſe to fear, if he found their Intereſt, and conſequently their Power, ſo far advanced above that of their Adverſaries, that they ſhould neither have the Power nor the Boldneſs to conteſt any thing with them, or with him, upon any matter that concerned them, which he could ſee in a very little time, if we could perſwade him to treat roundly with Sir *Will. Throckmorton*, and to do two or three things beſides, which would neceſſarily follow the firſt, and which he could not eaſily avoid doing; and I am certain Mony could not fail of perſwading him to it, for there is nothing it cannot make him do, though it were as much to his prejudice, as this we endeavour to perſwade him to, will be to his Advantage.

To convince you that the Duke and his Friends would have ſo much the Advantage in their Trade over their Competitors, in caſe they might be aſſiſted by Money, that there would be nothing for the King to apprehend, either of immediate loſs, or Collateral Damage, in preſent or to come; it will be enough that you conſider the infinite augmentation of Credit which they have already gain'd by the bare Impending of their Suit for a little time onely; for if that has been capable of advancing their Intereſt to ſuch a degree, conſider (I beſeech you) how one definitive Sentence in their favour, muſt needs eſtabliſh both their Reputation and real Power; It would do it to that degree, that, I dare ſay, not one man of thoſe who now balance betwixt them and their Adverſaries, or that ſeem to be even of their Enemies Party, believing the Advantage of the Suit on their ſide, would dare to croſs or contradict them in any matter whatſoever, in caſe that this point were abſolutely determined in their favour, and even thoſe who have moſt obſtinately oppoſed their Intereſts, would then be as earneſt to ſerve them, and to joyn with them, ſo that their Adverſaries would be wholly ruin'd, and all the Buſineſs be managed intirely by the Duke and his Friends, without any oppoſition: in ſuch ſort, that it will not be in the King's Power to eſtabliſh another Company, although he ſhould be ſo capricious as to deſire it, which he will never do, becauſe he is naturally inclin'd to favour thoſe, when he may do it without hazard, and he has nothing to apprehend upon this occaſion, ſince he will find his Intereſt better eſtabliſhed by this means, and with more ſecurity and quiet, than ever it has been hitherto.

For my part, that which I have ſaid ſeems ſo evident to me, that nothing leſs than a Miracle can give me greater aſſurance, that the King will never oppoſe the Deſigns of the Duke and his Friends, provided he has once done in their favour what they deſire of him, becauſe he will find his Account in it very advantagiouſly, as he will quickly perceive, when he has made tryal of the Succeſs, although he does not yet ſee it, and therefore it is neceſſary we ſhould be aſſiſted with Money, to open the Eyes of the King, or to carry him blindly to his own Advantage, which Mony will eaſily do, having ſuch an abſolute Power over him. that he cannot reſiſt it in any thing; and beſides that, the thing which we ask is ſo reaſonable, ſo honourable, and ſo much for his Intereſt, which he will ſee clearly, when he comes to conſider his own Affairs, as he ought, and ſo agreeable to his Inclination, that we want nothing but the aſſiſtance of a Sum of Mony, that may have influence enough upon him,

him, to make him reflect upon what concerns him moſt, particularly, to obtain all that we can deſire of him.

As for the Proceſs, we have no great reaſon to apprehend the ſucceſs of it, if money may there give it's honourable Teſtimony; for we are not only aſſured of Juſtice from thoſe Judges who are to determine it, but even of as much Favour as they can reaſonably ſhew us: for ſeeing they have been ſo kind as to defer the Sentence for ſo many Months, in favour of the Duke and his Friends, that they might have occaſion to ſtrengthen their party, when the ordinary Rule and Method of the Law, oblidged them to proceed forthwith to a determination of the Diſpute, which the adverſe Party preſſed with all their power, knowing well, that the Duke and his Friends, were not at all prepar'd to ſupport their Right as was requiſite. The Judges I ſay, being ſo favourable to them as to give them time for the clearing of ſome points which might change the Appearance of the Cauſe, ſo that inſtead of looſing it as they would certainly have done, without this Explanation; they cannot now fail of Succeſs in it, according to the ſtricteſt Rule of Juſtice, nor need they fear any Oppreſſion of Injuſtice after ſuch proofs of Kindneſs, ſo that the Duke and his Friends aſſiſted by the Teſtimony of Money, which may give ſo much evidence to this Affair, cannot fail of a Deciſion in their Favour, by the aforeſaid Judges.

Moreover, I perſwade my ſelf, the Pope will never want Teſtimonies on the Duke's part, either of his Will or Power, to go through what he undertakes, if the King does not hinder him; for as to the former, he has given ſuch proofs of his Integrity, and Reſolution to continue it unalterably in the greateſt Extremities, that no body can be ſo unjuſt as to ſuſpect him capable of any unworthy Action.

And as to his Power, there are ſo many Inſtances to be given in other Perſons, who have been leſs concern'd and leſs able than himſelf, and yet have been ſo ſucceſsful in the ſame Attempts, that there is no reaſon in this Caſe to doubt of it. Remember (I beſeech you) what happened at ---- in the year ---- and compare the perſons Enterprizes, and all other Circumſtances of thoſe times, with theſe, and then tell me (if you pleaſe) why one may not expect as good an effect now, as then; but if Mony alone be able to produce Effects of this kind in the preſent Conjuncture of Affairs, you will doubtleſs, agree with me, that it is requiſite to employ it on this Occaſion, if ever we pretend to uſe it on any. And

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indeed, there is no Appearance that ſo much Labour and Care have been uſed for ſo long time to encreaſe the Power of the Church, to render it unuſeful for ever.

As to the Journey of (Mr. *Gabriel*) the Internuncio, ſeeing he is fond of it, I am content, becauſe he will have better opportunity of promoting the Duke's Intereſt with the Pope and Emperour at *Rome*, than elſewhere; for my part, I ſhould not correſpond with his Succeſſor, without Monſieur *Gabriel*'s Expreſs Order, or ſome of his Friends, becauſe I may continue the Negotiation of our Affair immediately with him at *Rome*, as well as by any other way, which would not advance, but rather retard the Buſineſs. I ſhould think my ſelf very happy, if I might ſee him in his paſſage to —— but if that may not be, I ſhall be glad to get leave of my Maſter to meet him at —— to kiſs his hands, and to give him the greateſt aſſurances of my being intirely his, as I profeſs to be,

SIR,

*As to what you ſay of the Pope's Obligations to aſſiſt other Friends, who are under greater Preſſures, I anſwer, That perhaps the Affairs of the King of* France *may be more preſſing than theirs, and alſo than thoſe of the Duke, for the Duke may poſſibly be able to overcome all his Difficulties without any aſſiſtance from abroad, though not without much trouble and hazard, but I ſhould think the beſt, and honeſt way of aſſiſting the King of* France *effectually, would be for the Pope to joyn with the Duke, and to endeavour, with their Credit with* Spain, *and other Catholick Princes, to unite themſelves in a Company, and to admit the King of* France *into it, to the end, that being joyned in the ſame Company, they might have but one common Intereſt, and they would be able to Govern the whole Traffick at their Pleaſure, and the Proteſtants and all other Nations would be obliged to give them what they would ask for all they ſhould expect, and to ſell them their Merchandizes at their own price; becauſe there would be no other Merchants of whom they could buy, or to whom they could ſell, but to thoſe of this Company, which would bring them in an incredible Advantage, and there is nothing more eaſie than to eſtabliſh this Company, if the Pope would contribute his Aſſiſtance, as aboveſaid.*

*From*

## *From Mr.* Coleman *to the Internuntio.*

*Windſor, Aug.* 30. 1675.

IT is true, Sir, that the Pope hath given us a clear and evident mark of his affection toward the Catholicks of *England*; but the Internuntio hath teſtified no leſs in doing Juſtice to the Merits of Cardinal *Norfolk*, which he mentioned in his Letter of the 6th of *July*. Since we have reaſon to attribute his ſucceſs to the (juſt or favourable) character that the Internuntio hath given of him, I do not at all apprehend that the Internuntio repenteth himſelf of the good offices that he hath done him, but that he will finde them recompenced by the ſatisfaction which he will receive in his Friendſhip.

As for (Monſieur *Clement*) the Duke, I believe that he hath already found the effects of your Prayers; and that he hath almoſt ſurmounted all the Difficulties which have oppoſed his Eſtabliſhment: The face of his Affairs are well changed; for we now paſſionately wiſh to ſee the coming on of the Parliament which we ſo much feared before: And while it was held doubtful whether it ought to meet or no, we employed all our Power to bring it on; which point we have gained but within theſe few days. And for my part, I no ways doubt but that we ſhall receive as much good by it, as we apprehended ill, provided that the Duke fail not in the execution of the good Reſolutions which he hath taken. There is but one thing to be feared (whereof I have a very great apprehenſion) that can hinder the ſucceſs of our Deſignes; which is a Diviſion amongſt the Catholicks themſelves, which hath already broke out at *Paris* amongſt ſome Catholicks of *England*, touching ſome difference of Opinions in their Debates.

I finde that ſome of them have ſent their Complaints to *Rome*, to have their Antagoniſt condemned: I have an intimate Acquaintance with the Perſon complained of, and I dare affirm he hath made twice as many Catholicks in *England*, of thoſe which were none before, as any other perſon of his Quality; and that he is as well inclined towards the Pope and his whole Family, as the beſt of his Accuſers: And I aſſure you, he hath many Friends here of the Firſt Rank of Catholicks, who would not engage in his Affairs, if they did not believe that he marched

ſteadily towards the common end. Although he affecteth ſometimes to expreſs himſelf ſomewhat different from ſome of his Brothers. As for me, I believe there is too much paſſion on both ſides; and if it ſhall fall out that his Enemies prevail againſt him, and procure his Condemnation at *Rome*, I am afraid that divers others will take occaſion from thence to fall upon many Catholicks before the Parliament, deſiring its friendſhip about ſome extravagant Propoſitions concerning the Authority of the Pope, to which the other Catholicks cannot ſubmit; which will give occaſion to the Parliament to accord their conjunction to thoſe who require it, upon the Conditions before-mentioned; that is, Conditions prejudicial to the Authority of the Pope, by the hatred which they bear to all the Religion of the Catholicks, becauſe they may perſecute the reſt of them with more appearance of Juſtice, and ruine the one half of them more eaſily than the whole body at once. So that it ſeemeth to me, that although the Religion ſhould be much more ſeverely dealt with, by reaſon of their Complaint, than now it is, it would be very improper in the preſent Conjuncture of our Affairs, to make any diviſion betwixt the Catholicks of *England*, upon any occaſion whatſoever.

But for my part, I do not perceive any prejudice that can befal the Religion from any of thoſe things, againſt which ſome perſons ſeem to be ſo furiouſly enraged; becauſe to my apprehenſion, there is nothing contained in them, but what hath heretofore been maintained by Men of Worth and Honeſty, with the general approbation of the whole world; and particularly by *D. Elizalde* a *Spaniard*, in his Book Intituled, *De forma veræ Religionis quærendæ & inveniendæ.*

If you do not underſtand the Subject of this Letter, our Friend, from whoſe Hand you ſhall receive it, will inform you, and let you know the perſons, and all the matters which have paſſed betwixt them; and when you ſhall be fully poſſeſſed of them, and ſhall poſſibly come to be of my opinion, (that it is neceſſary to prevent all differences betwixt the Catholicks of *England* in this preſent Conjuncture) I hope you will contribute your utmoſt endeavour to prevent the Condemnation of *Rome*, in any thing that may occation a Breach amongſt the Catholicks of *England*. I very well know, that the Duke will hold himſelf much obliged by thoſe, who ſhall concern themſelves in the pacification of this diſorder, from whence we dread ſo much miſchief; And that the Emperour, and the Internuntio, cannot perform an Office more grateful to him, than to prevent the

Pope

Pope or any of his Family to embark themſelves in the Affair, which would raiſe ſome diſpute amongſt us.

I beg your pardon for the trouble I have given you upon this Subject: but knowing your goodneſs, and weighing the importance of the Affair, wherein I have taken the liberty to beg your aſſiſtance, I doubt not but you will pardon, *SIR.*

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## *A Letter ſeiz'd at Mr.* Coleman's, *directed,* A Monſieur Monſieur le Point proche de *Charing-Croſs* a *Londres*, pour fair tenir a Monſieur *James Clark.*

*September* 28, 1678. PARIS.

I Had yours of the 12th inſtant, laſt night; our Poſts theſe three laſt came in late: my Friend being with the Crowd, it's impoſſible for me to reach him now, but laſt night he ſent me the Friend I mentioned, to tell me that this Peace has broke all our Meaſures at preſent here, ſo that to write to our Friend at preſent is uſeleſs, notwithſtanding he had propoſed all things in very good order, had the Courier brought Peace in his mouth, which ſtop'd his as to our laſt deſigne; ſo that now they pretending here, the Peace being made, they have no need of us; ſo that by conſequence they won't ſeek us, as they would if the Peace had been ſtill oppoſed. But in a word, to put our *Traffique* afoot, it's abſolutely *neceſſary* that my *friend* come ſpeedily over to you, and to converſe with you and our other friend, becauſe his Meaſures are ſo well taken in *Italy*, that we can't miſs to *eſtabliſh* this Commodity better from thoſe parts, than from any here at preſent, thô hereafter we may finde means and helps from hence too. But *it's moſt certain, now is the time, or never, to put things in order to eſtabliſh it with you, for reaſons which you may very well gueſs*; and whatever my friend or th'other friend in the crowd can *write*, will ſignifie nothing; So whatever we ſay by Letter will be always imperfect, and want *explanation*; ſo that to clear all doubts, and for better Secrecy too, it's abſolutely neceſſary that our friend comes to you, and to that intent *in terms as obſcure as you pleaſe.* It's neceſſary that our friend with you deſires our friend at the Crowd here to give liberty to my friend with him, to come over to convene with him; for he ſays himſelf, it's you

muſt

muſt put him the way to make the meaſures he has taken in *Italy* to take effect; for he knows what power he hath here, but he knows not of what Conſtitution you are in: Beſides, the Propoſitions he makes for *Porterſhip* can't be done at this diſtance, but in ſuch terms, as the meaneſt face here you have will eaſily tell what he *means*, and ſo our *Trade* quite ſpoilt; ſo if our friend with you ſignifie the leaſt deſire he has to have our friend come over, he'le eaſily clear all difficulties, and diſcover to you the diſpoſitions of both Countreys to *our purpoſe*, and I no ways doubt but you ll have entire ſatisfaction; however, there will be no harm to hear what he can ſay, and to ſee the *plan* that's made for this kinde of Traffique. I expect your anſwer as to this particular, and ſhall ever be as you would have me to be.

This Letter is indorſt with Mr. *Coleman's* hand thus; *Anſwered 7ber 26. but imperfectly, and with a promiſe of a clearer and fuller Anſwer by the next Poſt.*

[Note, this dark ſuſpicious Letter was received but a very few days before the Plot was diſcovered to his Majeſties Privy-Conncil,and Mr. *Coleman* thereupon Committed.]

*Among* Mr. Coleman's *Papers is one of his own hand-writing, tituled on the back thus*; King's Power to command his own Subjects ſervice againſt all Acts of Parliament.

*That which is written within, ſeems to be but an imperfect beginning of an Argument to prove this* Power of commanding Subjects ſervice againſt all Acts of Parliament: *the words are theſe*; Any Subject is by his natural Legeance bound to obey and ſerve his Sovereign, *&c.* It is Enacted by the Parliament of the 23 *Hen. 6.* that no man ſhould ſerve the King as Sheriff of any County above one year; and that, notwithſtanding any Clauſe of *Non obſtante* to the contrary, that is to ſay, notwithſtanding that the King ſhould expreſsly diſpenſe with the ſaid Statute: Howbeit it is agreed in 2 *H.* 7. that againſt the expreſs purview of that Act, the King may by a ſpecial *non obſtante* diſpenſe with that Act; for that the Act could not barr the King of the ſervice of his Subject, which the Law of Nature did give unto him.

*Lord* Cooke *7th Report*, Calvin's *Caſe, fol.* 14.

The

The next following Letters were written to Mr. *Coleman* by the ſaid Internuntio, (or Nuncio, as he ſtiles himſelf) part from *Bruſſelles*, and the reſt from *Rome*; whither he removed during the Correſpondence. They were written Originally in *French*, Tranſlated by ſeveral Members of Parliament.

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## *Bruxelles* the 14th of *Auguſt*, 1674.

Tranſlated by *Tho. Thinn* Eſquire.

*SIR*,

YOur Letter of the 24th of *July*, which I received ſome days ſince from the perſon to whom you had Addreſt it, delivered me from the great uneaſineſs I was in, by not having heard from you in ſo long a time. I was very glad you confirmed what I received from another hand, the good condition in which the Dukes Affairs ſtood in relation to the Proceſs he had with the Parliament, wherein I hope he will have an entire Victory. Oblige me in acquainting me as often as poſſible you can, how that matter proceeds; and particularly, whether it will come quickly to a hearing as thoſe of his ſide intended, or whether it is like to be put off to a longer time; the Emperor is intirely his, and the Inter-Nuntio has this week received Letters from him, wherein he commands him to aſſure the Duke of the paſſionate zeal he has for his Service, and thoſe of the Catholicks. I pray you acquaint the Duke with it, and aſſure him that the Inter-Nuntio has alſo the ſame inclinations, as he will make appear on all occaſions that ſhall preſent themſelves; but it muſt be the Duke himſelf muſt direct in what we may contribute to his Service. The Pope alſo will give his aſſiſtance in ſuch things as are proper for him to appear in. I beg of you to communicate your News to me as often as you can, by ſuch ways as you ſhall judge moſt convenient, and am in the mean time, without reſerve,

*SIR*,

*Your moſt Humble and moſt Obedient Servant*,

ALBANY.

## *From* Bruſſels, September 28. 1674.

Tranſlated by Sir *Humphry Winch.*

*SIR,*

I Have received this Week two of your Letters, dated the fourth and the ſeventh of this Month, by which I underſtand in what condition the Dukes Proceſs is. I was raviſhed to find by the laſt, that the Tryal will be put off to another time, againſt the general opinion. Without doubt this will extreamly rejoyce the Pope and the Emperor, whereof the firſt imployeth all his power to accommodate the differences between *Spain* and *France*; and I doubt not, but the conſideration of contributing by this means, to the advantage of the Duke and of the Catholicks, will further incite him to ſolicite this affair, upon the relation which the Nuncio will make to the Pope of the importance of its ſucceſs, for the Catholiques of *England.*

As for the Emperor, he is ſo zealous for the Dukes ſervice, that I am aſſured he will omit nothing on his ſide to facilitate whatever he ſhall find tend to the good iſſue of this Affair, whereof I will write to him particularly. Continue only to impart to me all the light that may ſerve to direct what is to be treated on; I hope the next winter will give opportunity for more happy Negotiations, even to the Mediation of the Pope, who hitherto hath not been able to act at all, as you have known from other parts. I am, without reſerve, *&c.*

*Your moſt Humble*, &c.

ALBANY.

*October*

*October* 19. 1674.

Translated by Sir *Humphry Winch.*

*SIR,*

I Agree with you, that the only means to win the King to the Duke's Intereſt, and to take him off intirely from the Friendſhip of the Parliament, would be Money, for the Reaſons you alledge in your laſt Letter of the 2d inſtant, which I have juſt now received; but the means neceſſary to continue it are ſo exceſſive, that even according to your own opinion, and the diſcourſe we had when you was here, what the Pope could contribute would be nothing in compariſon of what is needed: and in the obligation he hath alſo to aſſiſt other Friends who are in greater ſtraits. I likewiſe doubt whether the Pope would reſolve upon what you propound, conſidering the little ſtreſs can be laid upon the Kings will, it being to be feared, that all imployed that way would ſoon be loſt, without any advantage to the Duke or his Aſſociates, which we have reaſon to fear from his ordinary manner of proceeding. It would therefore be neceſſary in my opinion to have at leaſt ſome propable aſſurances that we might imploy for the advantage of the Catholicks, and what otherwiſe we are obliged frugally to manage for them in other parts; before the Propoſition be made to the Pope, which is not to be undertaken in ſo general and obſcure Terms as you propound it. For what remains, the Nuntio is upon the point of going to *Rome*, having already leave to return. The Negotiation of the buſineſs you propound, will belong to his Succeſſour; but he will retain the ſame paſſion which he had for the Dukes Service, as well at the Emperors Court, as at the Popes, if he ſhall have any part in the Affairs of *England*. He will not fail to inform you more particularly of his departure. I pray aſſure the Duke of what I have told you, and am, without reſerve,

*SIR,*

*Your moſt Humble and moſt Obedient Servant*

ALBANY.

*October*

*October* 30. 1674.

Tranſlated by Sir *Gilbert Talbot.*

*SIR,*

ACcording as I ſent you word by my laſt, I am upon the point of parting from hence, having already received the leave that I waited for. I am ſorry to part from a place, where I might have been inſtrumental to the Service of the Duke; and have made it appear to him, what a particular zeal I have for all things that relate to him. Howſoever, I will not fail to contribute thereunto all that lyeth in my power, in the place whither I am going.

I leave here behind me a Friend of mine, who will have the care of my affairs; to whom nevertheleſs I have communicated nothing of the Commerce which is betwixt us: Neither will I acquaint therewith the Friend that is to come, till at leaſt I underſtand firſt from you, that you judge it convenient.

If you have any thing to ſend to me, in order to the Duke's Service, you may make uſe of the ſame hand which you employed in their addreſs hither to me, and he may ſend them to *Rome*, under the cover of his Brothers.

I pray you, deliver the Incloſed to Monſieur *Belair*; and I am, without reſerve,

*SIR,*

*Your moſt obedient Servant*

ALBANY.

## POSTSCRIPT.

I Think it better, that you ſend the Letter for Monſieur *Belair* ſome other way.

*Rome,*

*Rome*, 12 *January*, 167$\frac{4}{5}$.

Tranſlated by Sir *J. Knight*, part of this Letter not Decypherable.

*SIR*,

'TIs certain, that the beſt Expedient to become Mother of the Kings will, and to ſever his kindneſs from the Parliament, is that of Money. And I doubt not but the Duke may thereby make himſelf abſolute over his thoughts, and to draw, by his Proceſs, and that of the Catholicks, thoſe advantages which you take notice of in your laſt Letter.

But if the Pope had the means to do as much as would be neceſſary in this matter, which is much beyond his power, for the Reaſons I told you when I had the happineſs to ſee you, and of which I have adviſed you in many Letters; never can he be drawn reaſonably to do it, but upon more ſolid grounds, and more probable aſſurances touching the good of Religion and of the Catholicks, then what you intimate in the diſcourſes of your laſt Letter.

What you propoſe touching

you may there conſider it in the Terms wherein at preſent are it would be for the Intereſt of the Duke to produce unto light an affair of this nature. That which I can with truth aſſure you, and whereof the Duke may be perſwaded, is, that

ſince the Pope and the Emperour have an affection, and moſt peculiar zeal for all that regards him.

As to my ſelf, I lay about with the one and with the other in the ſame ſhrine of zeal which I ſhall always retain for the Duke, and perhaps you ſhall ſhortly ſee ſome proofs thereof.

It hath been here ſaid that the King for ſome time hath wanted his health, let me know what there is in it.

And as to our Commerce, you may continue until farther order, to ſend me your Letters by the ſame way which hitherto you have done. I am, without reſerve,

*SIR*,

*Yours*, &c.

The Cypher which I left with 300, and which you may have from him, will ſerve to open what here you find.

## *February* 16, 1675.

Tranſlated by Sir *Gilb. Talbot.*

YOur laſt Letter of the 7th of *January*, (which I received from a Gentleman, ſent from her R. Higneſs the Dutcheſs of *York* to the Dutcheſs of *Modena*) hath afforded me very great comfort, from the favourable prognoſtick which you make of the Affairs of the D. of *York*, wherein you know how highly I concern myſelf: without all doubt you have received the anſwer which I ſent you ſome time ſince, to the Letter delivered to me by the hand of your friend. And you have underſtood by that the incongruities, which render the execution of that Affair impoſſible, which you propoſed to be Treated with the Pope and the Emperor, concerning Money, and I doubt not but the Duke and you both, will come to be of the ſame opinion with me, that it would prove an irrecoverable prejudice to his Highneſs, if that buſineſs ſhould be ſet on foot. I was not a little ſurprized to hear, that my Lord *Arlington* was ſo deeply engaged in the concerns of the Parliament, that he ſhould have ſo little conſideration of preſerving his friendſhip for the King.

I expect with impatience the news from your Country, to know what the negotiation of your Miniſters in *Holland* will produce; andwhat the effect of Admiral *Tromps* Journey to *London*. I am, in the mean time,

*SIR,*

*Your moſt Humble and Obedient Servant,*

ALBANY.

## *June* 3, 1675.

Tranſlated *November* 1. 78, by Sir *Ed. Dering.*

*SIR,*

YOu have without doubt already underſtood from the Publick News-books, the buſineſs of the Cardinal of *Norfolk*, which will ſerve you as a moſt evident proof of the affection which the Pope doth bear unto the concerns of *England*; from whence you may draw a moſt aſſured conſequence, of what you may

may hope when the Affairs of the Duke ſhall need the aſſiſtance of *Rome*.

I am very glad to underſtand that his Affairs do not hitherto receive any prejudice by the Proceedings of the Parliament, and I ſhall be overjoyed to know the particular of his concerns, of which you gave me hope by your laſt, which was of the 7th of *April*, ſince which I have received none from you, I expect them with impatience, and ſo much the more, becauſe our friend, for ought I ſee, excuſeth himſelf from ſending me any news of the Duke, upon this reaſon, that you had given him hopes that you would inform me moſt particularly of all that paſſeth in this matter.

Oblige me therefore with the communication of your Letters, and believe that I am really,

*SIR*,

*Your moſt Humble and moſt Obedient Servant*,

ALBANY.

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*Rome, October* 19. 1675.

Tranſlated *November* 1, 78. by Sir *Ed. Dering*.

*SIR*,

YOurs of the 30 of *Auguſt* came not to my hands till the laſt week, by the means of our common friend who liveth in this City, which I am obliged to tell you, that you may not think I have forgot my duty in delaying my Anſwer ſo long.

I am over-joyed to underſtand by the news you write me, the good condition in which the Affairs of the Duke and the Catholicks are at preſent; and for what concerneth the matter of which I have been more particularly informed by your friend, I will not fail ſpeedily to acquaint the Emperour, and it is he who is all powerful with the Pope, with the reaſons why it is for the benefit of the Catholicks, to defer the execution of that cenſure, which might cauſe ſome diviſions among them, and give occaſion of advantage to the Parliament thereby. My advice hath been received very favourably, ſo that I am not only aſſured that they will delay for ſome long time the deſign of that buſineſs, but I hope alſo that the matter may poſſibly end ſo, as the perſon whom you recommend, doth deſire.

The

The consideration of the connexion which all this may have with the interests of the Duke, hath been the most prevailing motive to the persons with whom I have been obliged to treat in this affair, to perswade them to what you did desire; and you may know by that, the passion that there is in this place, to contribute to all things which they believe are for his service. I beseech you to assure him of the zeal with which I will always imploy my self therein. I am, without reserve,

*SIR,*

*Your most Humble and most Obedient Servant,*

ALBANY.

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*From Brussels, September 7, 1674.*

Translated by Sir *Humphry Winch.*

*SIR,*

YOurs of the 21 of the last Month, which just now I received, hath given me much trouble, by the dangerous condition whereunto the Dukes Process is reduced. I wish I were able to contribute to his service by the means of my Friends, and particularly of the Emperor and the Pope. But hitherto I see not wherein they can advantage him. The Pope endeavours, what, you observe, which would be the propereſt remedy for his Affair, but the Parties will not yet declare themselves upon that business. If you will explain your self, what may be done on this side, in the present occurrences of Affairs, I doubt not but all that is possible will be done. I beg the communication of your news, and am, without reserve,

*SIR,*

*Your most Humble and most Obedient Servant,*

ALBANY.

The

*The following Letters were written from* France *to Mr.* Coleman *by Mr.* St. Germain, *in* French, *and Tranſlated, ſome by Order of the Privy Council, and ſome by ſeveral Members of the Houſe of Commons.*

## *A Letter from St.* Germain *to* Coleman.

Paris $\frac{11}{21}$ *December*, 1675.

I Will tell you beſides, That the King of *France* does not ſeem yet reſolved to recall Monſieur *De Ruvigny* from the Trade where he has ingaged him; he perceives he does more harm than good; but other Conſiderations delay the Buſineſs. One of your Friends ſays, He will ſee if he can make things appear; but *Coleman* muſt well explain to me his End, and the Means he will make Uſe of. This Friend ſays beſides, That he has given the King's Confeſſor to underſtand, That the King of *France* ought not to do any thing with the King of *England*, but by the Duke of *York*; and he hath Promiſed and Engaged upon his Life to the King's Confeſſor to make all ſucceed, in caſe that way be made uſe of. Has he done well, and do you know this Friend? He will call himſelf henceforward 41, for I ſee none of this Name in your Cyphers. *Extract. Lect. pro Rege.*

Tranſlated out of *French* according to the Cypher, received from the Lords of the Committee appointed to Examine *Coleman*'s Papers.

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## *A Letter from St.* Germain *to* Coleman.

Paris $\frac{21}{31}$ *December*, 1675.

I Cannot forbear to Write to you once more this Week, having Two things to ſay to you; The one is, That I have ſeen Mr. *Sheldon*, who intends to go to Trade ſecretly in your Parts. He will depart in 8, or 10 Days, but take no notice of it, leſt it be known from whence you had it. He would have had me carried him to ſee the King's Confeſſor, whoſe Favour he endeavours to get by all means and helps. He will not paſs for a Merchant, and therefore he wears a Sword

by his side, and lives with the Arch-Bishop of *Dublin*: Both of them, I am told, Prosecute the Affair concerning which he hath written to you, and that you Communicate it to me. The other thing is, That the King's Confessor tells us, That the King of *France* thinks in earnest to recall Monsieur *de Ruvigny* from your Traffick; but he that is to be sent in his Place, does not please Mr. *Sheldon*, because, as he says, he is not of the most considerable Merchants of this place, though he have a great deal of Wit; and I am of his Mind, as well for this Reason as for others that are known to me, and which I cannot yet impart to you. Wherefore if Mr. *Coleman* would know of the Duke of *York*, if there be any Merchant here that would be acceptable to him, he may acquaint Monsieur *de Ruvigny* with it, and he will take care that by the means of the King's Confessor, it may be propos'd effectually to the King of *France*.

This would be very well for the Traffick of the Catholicks.

I expect to hear from you. I saw yesterday my Lady *Throckmorton*, that is come to *Paris* to lye in, and who is shortly going back to *Pontoyse*, she has a Sore Leg contracted in Childbed.

My humble Service to Madam *Coleman*; Pray take no notice of me to others, for I do not believe it fit for any one to know that I write to you so often: Believe me Sir, that I am altogether

*Your Servant*

De Pontheia.

Translated out of *French* according to the Cipher, delivered by the Lords of the Committee appointed to Examine *Coleman*'s Papers.

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## *A Letter from St.* Germain *to* Coleman.

$\frac{19}{29}$ *January*, 167$\frac{5}{6}$.

*Extract.*

*Lett. pro Rege.*

THE Brother of my Lady *de Ruvigny*, who is an Abbot, has made a Visit to St. *Germain*, in order to ingage him to speak in favour of the Prorogation to the King's Confessor; but St. *Germain* would do nothing without knowing from *Coleman* what his Opinion is thereupon. St. *Germain* has made the King's Confessor understand what the Duke of *York* could do by the Disgrace of Two Persons, of whom *Coleman* has written to St. *Germain*; and that the vigorous Councils that were

all

all absolutely necessary to produce Success in the Trassick of the Catholicks did proceed from the Duke of *York*, by the Inspiration of *Coleman*, who was most perfectly addicted to the good of the Trassick of the King of *England*, the Duke of *York*, and the Catholicks. This St. *Germain* is very well intentioned, but he must be taught what he is to do.

Translated according to the Key delivered by the Right Honorable the Lords of the Committee appointed to Examine *Coleman*'s Papers.

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## *For Monsieur* Coleman *the Dutchess Secretary in* Deans-Yard, *London.*

*January* $\frac{19}{29}$ $\frac{1675}{1676}$.

I Know not whether you do receive my Letters, but I well know that I receive yours punctually enough, as I think. I have had your two last of the 6th and 10th, your Stile, but they have given me some disquiet; you Promise to tell me many things, and afterwards you fall very short therein, sometimes Twelfth-Day is the Cause, and after it is because you had not my Letter of the 5th. To put both you and my self out of pain; I will tell you that I have writ to you the 5th, the 8th, the 12th, and the 15th of this Month, your Stile; and that I write to you to Day again, which is your 19th; you see one cannot be more exact. In all these Letters, I have writ to you of things that deserved answering, Especially concerning the Conduct which Monsieur *St. Germain* ought to use towards the Confessor of the King of *France*, and the new Ambassador; for he will not nor cannot do any thing till *Coleman* hath let him know his Thoughts. The Letters of the 8th, speak of a Matter concerning which they will have me give an account; there was Five Letters in that Pacquet, one whereof was for the Duke of *York*. Put me out of pain in this matter. The Secretary of Monsieur *Ruvigny* went on *Saturday* from *France* for *England*; the Secretary of the Ambassador from *England* in *France*, went also about the same time with him; you ought to know more of this Business than I. The Brother of the Wife of Monsieur *Ruvigny*, who is an Abbot, is come to see Monsieur *St. Germain*, concerning the same Business about which Mr. *Coleman* wrote to Monsieur *St. Germain*, to the end that he might engage him to speak in Commen-

dation

dation of the Prorogation, to the Confeſſor of the King of *France*; but Monſieur *St. Germain* would do nothing till Mr. *Coleman* had let him know his thoughts thereupon. Monſieur *St. Germain* has obſerved to the Confeſſor of the King of *France*, how great the Power of the Duke of *York* is by the Diſgrace of the Two Perſons, concerning which, Mr. *Coleman* had writ to Monſieur St. Germain; *and that the vigorous Counſels, which were all abſolutely neceſſary whereby to ſucceed in the Traffick of the Catholicks, came from the Duke of* York, *by the Inſpiration of Mr.* Coleman, *who alſo alone was the moſt truly Linked to the welfare of the Commerce of the King of* England, *the Duke of* York, *and the Catholicks.* This Monſieur *St. Germain* is very well intentioned; but it is neceſſary he be inſtructed what he muſt do. He hath not dared to ſpeak of any Matter to the Succeſſor of Monſieur *Ruvigny*, and yet it is meet that he do inſtruct him; for the Secretary of Monſieur *Ruvigny*, hath been to ſee him, and it is to be feared leſt he hath given him evil Counſels, with which the new Ambaſſador being prepoſſeſt, perhaps he will act in ſuch a manner as may not pleaſe Mr. *Coleman*, nor the Affairs of the Duke of *York*, and the Catholicks. I write to you by a new way, to ſee if it be more ſure; give me alſo a new Addreſs, and ſuch a one concerning which, there may be no occaſion of Fear.

Tranſlated by Sir *George Downing.*

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29 *Jan.* 75.
8 *Feb.* 76.

THis is the Fifth Letter that I have written to you, and of which I have had no Anſwer. I ſee by your laſt Letter of the $\frac{17}{27}$ of *Jan.* that you have received Two of mine; That of the $\frac{5}{15}$, and of the $\frac{8}{18}$ of *Jan.* but you make no mention of thoſe which I ſent you beſides (*viz.*) of the $\frac{15}{25}$ and $\frac{19}{29}$ of *Jan.* and of the $\frac{22}{1}$ $\frac{Jan.}{Feb.}$ and of the $\frac{26}{5}$ $\frac{Jan.}{Feb.}$ I give you theſe Dates, to the end you may ſee whether you have received as many as I have ſent to you. I am glad that (93) the Dutcheſs, thinks upon (49) St. *Germain.* And (62) *Coleman*, cannot do him a greater pleaſure than to employ him as he do's in ſerving (93) the Dutcheſs. This cannot but produce a very good effect with (163) the King of *France.* He will ſee thereby that People eſteem him in the Countrey of (110) *England.* And that (39 and 93) the Duke and Dutcheſs, being ſo far ſatisfied with him, as to give him Commiſſions,

Commiſſions, he will become more engaged to give ear to the Letter of Recommendation of (39) the Duke, which (35) *Montecuculi* has promis'd to ſend (49) *St. Germain*, though he has not yet done it. And (62) *Coleman* will do a kindneſs to enquire of (34 and 35) the Earl of *Peterborough* and *Montecuculi*, what hinders that he has not yet received it. Beſides, that (49) *St. Germain is, and always will be moſt ready to deliver Meſſages in favour of* (39, 93, 300, and 62.) *the Duke, the Dutcheſs, the Catholicks, and* Coleman, *to* (488 and 163) *the Confeſſor and the King of* France; believing himſelf moſt ſtrongly engaged thereto by the Teſtimonies of Goodneſs, which he has received from them in time paſt. And though he is without (80) Money, he will not ceaſe to act as he ought, with Zeal and Fidelity, provided he be not ſent elſewhere, but left where he is; which yet may happen after *Eaſter*, he having no imployment to detain him where he is, unleſs (62) *Coleman* write to (488) the King's Confeſſor, *either from; or as from* (39 and 93) *the Duke and Dutcheſs, to ſignifie to him that thoſe two Perſons deſire to make uſe of him, as a Correſpondent in their Traffick between them* (62, and 488, and 163) Coleman, *and the Confeſſor, and the King of* France. *In which caſe* (49) St. Germain *would take his time to act in favour of* (62) Coleman *with* (488, and 163) *the Confeſſor and the King of* France, *and to bring to paſs that* (62) Coleman *ſhall obtain* (26) *a Penſion of* 100000 *l.* Sterling *for himſelf.* If (49) *St. Germain* receive the Letters which he expects from (35) *Montecuculi*, and they have their effect, he will have *wherewith to pay the Charge* of his remaining where he is, and of all the Affairs of *Commerce*, whereof Commiſſions ſhall be given him. (49) *St. Germain* will have no need of (80) Money, till after *Eaſter*. But at that time, if the Letters of (39) the Duke to (163) the King of *France* hath no ſucceſs, it will be impoſſible for him to enter into the Commerce, unleſs (62) *Coleman* obtain from (93 or 39) the Dutcheſs or Duke, one quarter more, like that which he received being in the Countrey of (110) *England*; that is to ſay, between Thirty and Forty Pounds *ſterling*. And if this be once done for all, it will give him the Means to ſubſiſt with Eaſe for above a Year; during which time, he hopes to put himſelf into a Condition of ſerving all the World, without importuning any body for ever. (49) *St. Germain* deſires you to tell all this to (62) *Coleman*, that he may take his Meaſures accordingly, and ſend his Opinion thereof to (49) *St. Germain*. As for the Affairs of the *Carmelites* of *Antwerp*, (49) *St. Germain* will undertake it with warmth, as ſoon as ever he receives the Letters concerning it, which he expects by the next Poſt. Accord-

ing to what (62) *Coleman* writes to him, by his Letter of the $\frac{17}{27}$ of *Jan.* $\frac{75}{6}$, which is to be at Eight a Clock this Evening: I desire you, Sir, to Deliver Mr. *Rogers* the Letter of Thanks which I write to him for his good News; I will send him in exchange a Writing against the Enemy of (49) *St. Germain*, and Mr. *Beddingfield* shall have it on *Wednesday* next at farthest, when he departs from hence. I am glad that that Enemy is decry'd there where you are, as well as he is here. But has (62) *Coleman* nothing to say to the new (41) Ambassador--- by the intervention of (49) *St. Germain*? He desires it, to the end to have occasion of speaking to the new (41) Ambassador---concerning (62) *Coleman*; and by that Means to be the better believed by the new (41) Ambassador, when he shall speak good to him of his best Friend (62) *Coleman*. I leave Mr. *Warner* to send you the News, which are all concerning War. The *Spaniards* refuse the Passports, because the King terms the Prince of *Lorrain* Cousin and not Brother, in those which he has given to the Plenipotentiaries of the other Princes. 'Tis said that the *Jansenists* fall short of their Expectations at Court; and that the King shews himself averse to them in all the steps which they make to ingratiate with him. Mr. *Arnauld* has not been able to make his Peace, though he has offered to Subscribe the Doctrine of Mr. *Amelot*, Priest of the Oratory, touching sufficient Grace, according to the sence of this Author. And the Arch-Bishop of *Paris* has suspended a Predicator, for not having spoken of the Popes and Councils as he ought. If I were in the Street of St. *Antoine*, as I am in that of St. *Jaques*, I should know more News. Adieu, I pray believe that you have not a more faithful Servant, nor a more true Friend than me in all the World.

Translated by Sir *Henry Capell.*

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## *To Mr.* Coleman, *Secretary of the Commands of her Royal Highness, Madam the Dutchess of* York, *in* Deans-yard, *Westminster.*

*The* $\frac{1}{11}$ *of* March $\frac{75}{76}$.

I Have received your Letter of the $\frac{25\ Feb.}{2\ Mar.}$ I did not write to you on *Saturday*, Sir, and I shall send you very little by this Ordnary; because that the Letters from *England* being not Arrived before *Tuesday*, and not upon *Monday*; I know not yet if there be

be any from you to me. In those they send me, I expect the Dutchesses Letter, to desire Monsieur *St. Germain* to Treat with the King of *France*. Just now I have received a Letter brought me from *England*; but there is none from you. I thank you for your Good will for the Lady. Send me News of Mr. *Sheldon*, (an *English* Priest) what he does in *England*, will he stay there always? Monsieur *St. Germain* thanks Mr. *Coleman* for the Marks of Friendship he gives him. And he has already thanked him, as he says, by his Precedent Letter; Monsieur *St. Germain* will send to know of him why Mr. *Coleman* would not have him speak of what he sends him concerning One Hundred Thousand Pound Sterling, promised to the King of *England*, by the Means of the Duke of *York*. For it is to the purpose, as he believes, That the King's Confessor should know it; to the End he may serve him in the Business, near the King of *France*; Monsieur *St. Germain* is of the Opinion with Mr. *Coleman*, as concerning the Great Treasurer. And 'tis absolutely Necessary that it be known in the King of *France*'s Shop; otherwise it will hurt his Commerce. It suffices me to know that the Dutchess has received the Letter of Monsieur *St. Germain*. It was nothing but a pure Civility, touching the condition she is in; and an Affair was recommended to her, which is done since. I saw your Friend Yesterday, he shew'd me News of you; He will come hither to Day to be present at a Comedy which will be represented here. Monsieur *de Vantelett* is with me, and prays me to do you his Civilities. Pray do mine to Madam your Wife, and to Monsieur *Tartereau*, when you shall see him. We have no News. They prepare strongly for the War, and they work strongly to Accommodate the Affair of Monsieur the Prince of *Conde*, to the End he may go into *Flanders*, and make Head against the *Germains*; who will come with a very great Strength. I make you no Complements, Sir, neither in the beginning or finishing my Letters.

Translated by Mr. *Anchitell Gray*.

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## *To Mr.* Coleman, *Secretary to her Royal Highness the Dutchess of* York, *in* Deans-yard, *Westminster.*

*March* $\frac{8}{18}$. $\frac{15}{16}$.

THe slow arrival of your Letters, hath very much disquieted me, I thought my self Dead in your Remembrance; But that which you writ to me, of the $\frac{5}{15}$ of *March*, hath again restored

ſtored me to Life (at leaſt for ſome time); for the dulneſs where-with the Buſineſs that you wot of, is carried on, will (I fear) let me die no other Death; and that, for Reaſons which you will hear of too ſoon. Thoſe of the Catholick Religion, have deſired me to write to you, to let *Coleman* know the Condition of their Affairs; which is, that being for the preſent out of Purſe, it is altogether impoſſible for them to keep up their Trade long, without his help. Beſide, That the Party apprehendeth that his Trade failing in the Shop where he now is, he ſhall after *Eaſter*, be ſent to ſet up in ſome other Town. But if he could have obtained from the D. of *York*, the Papers for which he hath ſo long waited, he might probably e're this time, have concluded his Buſineſs with the *French* King, by the Means of the King's Confeſſor; and he might have put himſelf in a condition to have continued his Trade, to the Advantage of thoſe in whoſe favour thoſe Papers were written; for having no Imployment in his Shop, for want of Money, it is impoſſible that he ſhould keep it long; ſince he wanteth Opportunity to make himſelf appear uſeful to the Service of the Duke and Dutcheſs; having no order to act in any thing whatſoever.

I am overjoy'd with what *Coleman* hath ſaid to the Dutcheſs, and with what the Duke hath done for the grand Treaſurer.

*St. Germain* hath made himſelf Enemies, by maintaining the Opinion, That the Dutcheſs ought to be prevailed with, to manage her Affairs otherwiſe than ſhe hath hitherto done. I would gladly underſtand what Anſwer the Dutcheſs hath made to *Coleman*. St. Germain *buildeth great hopes upon what* Coleman *writeth to him, about the Diſcourſe which the Duke held with the grand Treaſurer*. But *Coleman* may conſider, That if the Duke ſhall Treat any thing with the *French* King, through other hands than the Confeſſors, he ſhall meet with People that will couzen him, and who will prefer the good of *France*, before that of the Catholick Religion, and of the Duke; and principally of *Coleman*, who hath many Rivals about his R. Highneſs; and who is neither ſufficiently known to, nor hath any Intereſt with the *French* King: If Monſieur *St. Germain* were a little acquainted with Matters, he would Diſcourſe them freely with the Confeſſor; and learning from him the bottom of the Matter, he would (without Diſſimulation) Communicate all to *Coleman*; whereas now it is to be feared, that the other Negotiators Cheat the *Engliſh*, for the Advantage of *France*, or for their own particular Intereſt; for the chief Miniſter in the Councils of War, who hath at preſent an Abſolute Power over his Chriſtian Majeſty, is altogether for War;

which

which is neither the Buſineſs of *England*, nor of the Roman Catholicks. Be ſure, that you make *Coleman* fully ſenſible of all this; for it is one of their moſt indiſputable Articles of Faith.

*St. Germain* hath deſired me to tell you, That it is a hard matter to make *Coleman* underſtand what he deſireth concerning the Lady's Buſineſs; who, if you ſo pleaſe, will henceforth go under the Name of Madam *de la Tremblay*: Becauſe he plainly perceives, that thoſe Perſons who know altogether as much of that Affair as he, ſtand upon their reſerve, and will not diſcloſe themſelves in what they know, nay of what they have acted with him. Nevertheleſs, I will tell you (in hope that it ſhall go no farther than our ſelves) (no, not ſo much as to take notice of it to Madam *de la Tremblay*) that *Montecuculi*, and the D. of *York* are the Two firſt who ever thought of putting it into the Dutcheſſe's head, to think cloſer of the Traffick than ſhe had done; and that therefore finding no body in her own Shop who was able to make her ſenſible of the Importance of that Affair, and the means to ſucceed in it; and that ſhe had thoſe Counſellors about her, which made her do things that were likely to ruine her whole Commerce; they concluded, that it was neceſſary to place ſome able and truſty Perſon about her. They refuſed to make choice of any of the Dutcheſs's own Countrey, by reaſon of the Experience which they had of him who was there already; and becauſe they underſtand not the way of the *Engliſh* Trade, nor indeed of the *Engliſh* Men; as not having the Acquaintance of any, in whom they might confide. The Perſon nominated was eſteemed very proper, as well for his own Merit, as becauſe that Choice would oblige Monſieur *Rouvigni*, the Catholick Party, and conſequently the *French* King, to Declare for the Duke and Dutcheſs.

And that this Perſon being of the Catholick Party, and *Rouvigni* of the Proteſtant, both ſides would be well pleaſed. To bring this Matter about, *St. Germain*, by the advice of *Montecuculi*, diſcourſed the Matter with Madam *de la Tremblay*, who hath as you know, all Power over the Perſon upon whom they had caſt their Eyes, to be placed in the Dutcheſs's Shop. Madam *de la Tremblay* offered her Aſſiſtance in all that they deſired. The Matter was then to be approved by the Duke and Dutcheſs. *Montecuculi* communicated it by Letter, to the Banker, his Maſter (whoſe Correſpondent in *England*, the Dutcheſs is) who embraced the Propoſals, and promiſed to write thereof to the Dutcheſs, as he ſoon after did; but touched the Matter tenderly, being content at firſt to recommend to her the Care of his Buſineſs; and

ſtored me to Life (at leaſt for ſome time); for the dulneſs where-with the Buſineſs that you wot of, is carried on, will (I fear) let me die no other Death; and that, for Reaſons which you will hear of too ſoon. Thoſe of the Catholick Religion, have deſired me to write to you, to let *Coleman* know the Condition of their Affairs; which is, that being for the preſent out of Purſe, it is altogether impoſſible for them to keep up their Trade long, without his help. Beſide, That the Party apprehendeth that his Trade failing in the Shop where he now is, he ſhall after *Eaſter*, be ſent to ſet up in ſome other Town. But if he could have obtained from the D. of *York*, the Papers for which he hath ſo long waited, he might probably e're this time, have concluded his Buſineſs with the *French* King, by the Means of the King's Confeſſor; and he might have put himſelf in a condition to have continued his Trade, to the Advantage of thoſe in whoſe favour thoſe Papers were written; for having no Imployment in his Shop, for want of Money, it is impoſſible that he ſhould keep it long; ſince he wanteth Opportunity to make himſelf appear uſeful to the Service of the Duke and Dutcheſs; having no order to act in any thing whatſoever.

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*St. Germain* hath deſired me to tell you, That it is a hard matter to make *Coleman* underſtand what he deſireth concerning the Lady's Buſineſs; who, if you ſo pleaſe, will henceforth go under the Name of Madam *de la Tremblay*: Becauſe he plainly perceives, that thoſe Perſons who know altogether as much of that Affair as he, ſtand upon their reſerve, and will not diſcloſe themſelves in what they know, nay of what they have acted with him. Nevertheleſs, I will tell you (in hope that it ſhall go no farther than our ſelves) (no, not ſo much as to take notice of it to Madam *de la Tremblay*) that *Montecuculi*, and the D. of *York* are the Two firſt who ever thought of putting it into the Dutcheſſe's head, to think cloſer of the Traffick than ſhe had done; and that therefore finding no body in her own Shop who was able to make her ſenſible of the Importance of that Affair, and the means to ſucceed in it; and that ſhe had thoſe Counſellors about her, which made her do things that were likely to ruine her whole Commerce; they concluded, that it was neceſſary to place ſome able and truſty Perſon about her. They refuſed to make choice of any of the Dutcheſs's own Countrey, by reaſon of the Experience which they had of him who was there already; and becauſe they underſtand not the way of the *Engliſh* Trade, nor indeed of the *Engliſh* Men; as not having the Acquaintance of any, in whom they might confide. The Perſon nominated was eſteemed very proper, as well for his own Merit, as becauſe that Choice would oblige Monſieur *Rouvigni*, the Catholick Party, and conſequently the *French* King, to Declare for the Duke and Dutcheſs.

And that this Perſon being of the Catholick Party, and *Rouvigni* of the Proteſtant, both ſides would be well pleaſed. To bring this Matter about, *St. Germain*, by the advice of *Montecuculi*, diſcourſed the Matter with Madam *de la Tremblay*, who hath as you know, all Power over the Perſon upon whom they had caſt their Eyes, to be placed in the Dutcheſs's Shop. Madam *de la Tremblay* offered her Aſſiſtance in all that they deſired. The Matter was then to be approved by the Duke and Dutcheſs. *Montecuculi* communicated it by Letter, to the Banker, his Maſter (whoſe Correſpondent in *England*, the Dutcheſs is) who embraced the Propoſals, and promiſed to write thereof to the Dutcheſs, as he ſoon after did; but touched the Matter tenderly, being content at firſt to recommend to her the Care of his Buſineſs; and

to have a more watchful Eye over it than formerly; and to take along with her the Advice of *Montecuculi*, who was acquainted with all his Thoughts, and rightly ſet to contribute his beſt Aſſiſtance toward the Succeſs of his Affair. The Dutcheſs thereupon enquired of *Montecuculi* what was expected for her to do? *Montecuculi* gave her her Leſſon in Writing, to ſtudy it at her leiſure, and without expreſſing the Matter plainly, inſinuated to her, that ſhe wanted a good Apprentice to take care of her Shop, and keep an exact Account of all that paſſed through his hands. That her eldeſt Apprentice had not Wit enough, That the Second was ignorant of the Affairs of *England*; and did not underſtand a word that was ſaid to him. That he ſet himſelf to no Buſineſs; nay, that he was of a malicious Spirit, making ill Impreſſions in the Dutcheſs of all the Boys in the Shop, to preſerve himſelf ſingle in her favour. That the Third was Dull, Careleſs, Scornful, and an Enemy to all Activity. All this was ſaid to the Dutcheſs by *Montecuculi*; not indeed ſo downright as I have expreſſed it, yet ſo as the Dutcheſs might underſtand it if ſhe pleaſed; and I believe ſhe did ſo; but inſtead of receiving it as ſhe ought, ſhe ſeemed to be out of humour; and hath not (as I know) ſince that time, written any Anſwer to *Montecuculi*; but hath avoided all manner of Correſpondence with him. Wherefore *Montecuculi* and *St. Germain* thought fit to proceed another way, and make the Duke acquainted with what the Dutcheſs would not ſeem to underſtand.

*Montecuculi* diſcourſed the Matter with the E. of *Peterborough*, without acquainting him that they had any deſign to place the Friend of Madam *Tremblay* in the Shop; but barely to engage him to acquaint the Duke, with the ill conduct of the Dutcheſs; and to lay before him the Neceſſity of applying ſome proper and powerful Remedy. But afterward *Montecuculi* and *St. Germain* ſought other Perſons leſs intereſſed, and better inclined than the E. of *Peterborough*, for this Buſineſs. And if *Coleman* pleaſe, he may call to mind the diſcourſe which *St. Germain* had with him upon this Subject, repreſenting to him the Neceſſity there then was of placing a Head Apprentice or Fore-man in the Dutcheſs's Shop. Nevertheleſs he did not then ſpeak all out, becauſe the Friend of Madam *de la Tremblay*, being not then in *England*, they expected his return, to know of him if he would be content that *Coleman* ſhould be admitted to the knowledge of the Matter.

And accordingly *St. Germain* writ to Madam *la Tremblay*'s Friend, who was then in *France*, to preſs his ſpeedy coming over, that we might act joyntly, and without loſs of time,

St.

*St. Germain* had likewiſe Treated for Two other Perſons; one of them he laboured to put into the good eſteem of the Dutcheſs, and ſucceeded therein; and by the aſſiſtance of the Firſt, introduced the Second. They are both well with the Duke. But herein *St. Germain* gave himſelf work enough; for theſe Two laſt Perſons are ſuch, that *St. Germain* neither can, nor will Treat with, by any but himſelf; and he hath ſuch private Reaſons for it, that he dares not expreſs them; and ſo forcible, that if he ſhould utter them, all the World muſt be of his Opinion, and do as he doth. He undertook likewiſe to taſte (but obſcurely) the mind of the Duke's Confeſſor, in cenſuring the weak conduct of the Dutcheſs's Ghoſtly Father, by laying open the miſcarriages of the Dutcheſs, which required a ſpeedy and vigorous Remedy.

Theſe are all the Proceedings, as likewiſe the Contrivances of *St. Germain* to gain his two unknown Friends, which could not yet be carried ſo cloſe, but that ſome Obſervations have been made of them; but none could ever diſcover the true Cauſe of the groundleſs Jealouſies which have been raiſed upon *St. Germain*; and which hath been the chiefeſt Reaſon that he hath been abandoned in his Misfortunes, and that no body concerneth himſelf to reſcue him out of them. Thus you have the whole Myſterie of the Buſineſs, which hath been ſo vigorouſly agitated with *Coleman*, the E. of *Peterborough*, the two unknown Perſons, and the Duke's Confeſſor, upon the arrival of the Friend of Madam *de la Tremblay* in *England* with intent (had not the accident befallen *St. Germain*) to perſuade the Duke to conſent to the doing of the work; and after his conſent obtained, to have propoſed it to the Dutcheſs, by her grand Banker *Montecuculi*: I ſhould utterly deſpair if any, beſide your ſelf, were made acquainted with this whole Matter. I hope *St. Germain* will Pardon me the laying open of his whole Secret to you: But I doubt whether he would be pleas'd that *Montecuculi* ſhould know that he had diſcover'd it to you. Well then, Let *Montecuculi* come, and try if he would or could re-enter into the ſame Negotiation with *Coleman*, the E. of *Peterborough*, and the Confeſſor of the Duke; who certainly is highly diſpleaſed with the Dutcheſs's Confeſſor, and with others, whom you will judge proper for this Deſign. As for my ſelf, who have no other part in it, but to advertiſe you thereof, you may judge how unprofitable I am. But if the Duke would be perſuaded to write hither, That he wiſheth, or at leaſt that he judgeth it fit, that *St. Germain* ſhould appear in *England*. I know that the Two concealed Gentlemen would contribute toward

*A faire la Comp.*

ward it the utmoſt of their Power; and that then the Duke will be more Powerful than ever amongſt them, to make them act vigorouſly. But this is a Fancy of my Brain, to which *St. Germain* will not be brought, as judging it impoſſible; principally in regard of the Enemies which the Enterprize of this Affair hath raiſed him.

Tranſlated by Sir *G. Talbot*.

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## St. Germain *to* Coleman.

$\frac{18}{28}$ *March* $\frac{75}{76}$.

I Have received yours, of the $\frac{9}{19}$ *March*, and omitted to write to you for two Poſts; by reaſon I received no Letters from you, I have given you an exact account of the Affair of our Friend Madam *de la Tremblay*, in my laſt Letters; to which I expect your Anſwer. *St. Germain* went Yeſterday to Viſit the Confeſſor, and to deliver him the Dutcheſs's Letter for the King of *France*; and this day he is to carry him a Memorial, to the End he may ſpeak Effectually to the King; and to the Satisfaction of the Dutcheſs. The Confeſſor hath received Mr. *Coleman*'s Letter, and *St. Germain* hath already acquainted Mr. *Coleman* with it; but his Great Affairs hath made him forget it; If the Confeſſor hath not anſwered it, it is becauſe he expected the Dutcheſs's Letter, to anſwer both at once, after he ſhall have ſeen the Iſſue of the Buſineſs. It's ſaid, That the King of *France* hath been very Melancholy for ſome days (being a Lover of his Countrey) the Affair of *Meſſina* cauſes his Diſcontent; Others ſay, That he had formed ſome deſign (this year) for Trade, which hath been fruſtrated; Others, That it is only by reaſon of this time of Devotion; He would ſometimes walk all alone, contrary to his Cuſtom. It's ſaid the Emperor Arms very powerfully. The Electreſs of *Bavaria* is dead, and the Empreſs very ſick; Madam *de Brinvilliers* the great Poiſoner, is taken Priſoner at *Liege*; They are demoliſhing *Hug*, *Dinant*, and the Cittadel of *Liege*: It's ſaid for certain the King will part from *Paris*, *Wedneſday* after *Eaſter*, which will be the 8*th* of *April*, our Stile.

I have received yours of the $\frac{15}{25}$ *March*, I could not ſend you this laſt *Saturday*; I ſend it on our Holy *Wedneſday*, being the $\frac{22}{1}$ *March* / *April*. *St. Germain* deſires me to tell you, that you will do him a great favour to thank Mr. *Coleman*, for all good Offices in his behalf;

for

for which he can never ſufficiently return Thanks; he is of Opinion, That the Confeſſors with you, had great reaſon to formalize on his Proceedings; which he would Condemn himſelf, if he had not the Reaſons, which he told Mr. *Coleman*, and which are ſuch in the preſent ſtate of Affairs, that if thoſe two Confeſſors were in his Place, they would do the ſame. Mr. *Coleman* will alſo do him a Kindneſs, to make his Complements to Mr. *Montecuculi*, whom he knows to be, in all things his true Friend. For his Voyage into *England*, he leaves it in the Hands of Providence; but he doth not believe that we ought to begin, by engaging the Confeſſor to ſollicit this Affair, unleſs the Duke doth deſire it, or think it fit; *The Duke's Lord Treaſurer is very well diſpoſed to the good Succeſs of this Buſineſs*, as they tell *St. Germain*; and he hath *reaſon to believe it True*.

It is Neceſſary (I ſay) abſolutely Neceſſary, that Mr. *Coleman* make himſelf better Known in *France*, and to the King of *France* and his Confeſſor, by Negotiations concerning his Traffick; Therefore *St. Germain* wiſhes, That the Duke had ſome Occaſion to ſend him into *France*, to Treat of ſome Point of Commerce; becauſe appearing and acting, they would Intereſt him more deeply in the Trade. *St. Germain* hath given a Memorial to the Confeſſor, concerning the Affair of *Antwerp*; and the Confeſſor hath put it (in the preſence of *St. Germain*) in the Pacquet with the Dutcheſs's Letter to the King of *France*; and the Confeſſor hath promiſed *St. Germain* to ſpeak very earneſtly of this Affair; He went to Court on *Sunday* laſt, where he will ſtay 8 days; becauſe in that time they are accuſtomed to take a review together of the whole years account. Above all, *St. Germain* hath recommended to the Confeſſor to act ſo, that the King of *France* might write back to the Dutcheſs, who was angry the laſt year, that ſhe received no Anſwer to a Letter ſhe writ to him. If Mr. *Coleman* did take a turn into *France*, I do not doubt but he *might obtain ſomething Conformable to the Promiſes of Mr.* Ruvigny; *but then he muſt be impowered in this Voyage, by the Duke's Commiſſions.* Send me ſome News of the Dutcheſs of *Mazarin*, whom I will hereafter call 98; and of the Dutcheſs of *Portſmouth*, whom I will call 89; for ſeveral things are diſcourſed here, both of the one, and the other. The Dutcheſs of *Cleveland* arrived at *Paris*, *Monday* Evening $\frac{30}{20}$ *March*.

Tranſlated by *R. Whitley*.

## *To Mr.* Coleman, *Secretary to her Royal Highneſs the Dutcheſs of* York *in* Deans-yard *in* Weſtminſter.

Paris $\frac{5}{15}$ *April* 76.

I Do almoſt like you, I write not to you when you write not to me; and ſend you only ſmall Letters, when you ſend not me great ones; and beſides, our News is yet very little. The King goes from hence to Morrow, but it is not yet known whither; ſome ſay, to Beſiege *Cambray*; others ſay, towards *Sedan*, to be betwixt *Germany* and *Flanders*; there are ſome who will have the King to go to *Philipsburg*, to oblige the Enemy to a Battel, at which he hath a great deſire once to be.

For other things, *St. Germain* deſires you will tell Mr. *Coleman*, that the King's Confeſſor hath poſitively aſſured him, That the *French* King will write to the Dutcheſs concerning the Buſineſs that is on foot; the Confeſſor told it to *St. Germain* in ſuch a manner, as he believes it will be to the Satisfaction of the Dutcheſs. The Confeſſor alſo added upon what St. *Germain* repreſented to him, That the *French* King leaving his home to make a round towards his Enemies, could not ſo conveniently ſend the Letter of Exchange to *Antwerp*, as was deſired, if he did dot do it before his departure; That the *French* King thought upon theſe Buſineſſes as well Abroad as at Home: It is Neceſſary that *Coleman* inform *St. Germain* of what ſhall happen, and if the Dutcheſs have received an Anſwer, and what it is. Madam *Tremblay* writ a Letter of *March* 26 Nevv Stile to *St. Germain*, in vvhich vvas expreſt that *Coleman* had not ſeen her in Ten days, to tell her what he had done. Madam *Tremblay* hath writ to Madam *Ruvigny's* Brother, to oblige him to ſpeak to the King's Confeſſor in favour of St. *Germain*, to procure him a Journey into *England*, if the Confeſſor had asked *St. Germains* advice upon't, he would have counſelled him not to take that way which can never do well.

The new Ambaſſador's Secretary is very earneſt with *St. Germain* to befriend him with the Confeſſor, and ſeems very zealous for the Duke of *York*, but *St. Germain* would know if this Secretary be as well with the Duke of *York*, as he would make us believe, *and if the Duke hath all along truſted him with the ſecret of his Affair.* *St. Germain* entertains him with fair Promiſes, by that means to underſtand things which may be uſeful to his Friends, and chiefly to *Coleman*. This Secretary is much aſtoniſhed at the

rumour

rumour that is here of the Duke of *York*, *having received no News of it*; and *St. Germain* is a little angry at *Coleman*, that he hath writ nothing to him of it.

Tranſlated by Sir *E. Jennings*.

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## *For Mr.* Coleman *Secretary of her Royal Highneſs, in* Deans-yard, *Weſtminſter.*

*July* $\frac{15}{25}$. (*No year Named.*)

I Did not believe Sir, that I ſhould have written to you this day, becauſe Mr. *Gray* will himſelf write to you, to whom I told all my News; ſo that you are to expect none from me now. You may aſſure Mr. *Coleman*, that Monſieur *St. Germain* will deliver that Letter to Madam *la Tremblay*, which he addreſſed to her; but at the ſame time that he promiſed it, he ſaid that he had not lately heard any thing of her, nor could he certainly tell whether ſhe were yet arrived, but he would make a diligent Inquiry, and pay his Devoire in all things to Mr. *Coleman*, and would perform even more than was deſired when ever he could. Monſieur *St. Germain* is in good earneſt highly Obliged to Mr. *Coleman* for all thoſe Induſtrious pains he takes upon his Account, and in a particular manner for thoſe Papers we wanted, that he wants Language to expreſs his Gratitude. Monſieur *St. Germain* has received a Letter from the King's Confeſſor, and from the Ambaſſador, wherein he is to make his Addreſs to that Confeſſor, that the Succeſſor of *St. Germain* be not ſent, nor indeed any other of the *French* Nation; as Mr. *Coleman* ſeems to be ingaged in this Paper, *St. Germain* intreated me to write every thing which related to *Coleman*, who was thereupon to take his Meaſures; for I ſee very well, that Monſieur *Rouvigny* is ſtrangely bent againſt the *Jeſuits*, and the Duke and *Coleman*, and I much apprehend his giving the ſame Sentiments to the King of *France*, and to his Confeſſor, and the Miniſter of State: And therefore Mr. *Coleman* muſt manage carefully this Affair, without the leaſt taking notice that he knows any thing from Monſieur *St. Germain*; you muſt take eſpecial care not to prejudice our Friend, that he may be the better able to Traffick with the King's Confeſſor, and Mr. *Sheldon*. As to the reſt, you muſt know that the Duke has conſented that *St. Germain's* Succeſſor ſhould not go into *England*,

Provided

Provided that the King's Confeſſor will name another; I could wiſh that the Dutcheſs would have Ordered a little Note to be writ to the King's Confeſſor about this Matter, and that by an agreeing to his deſires, that the Succeſſor might remain with him ſtill, and not go into *England*, the Dutcheſs might then the better put him in mind of the Merchants of * *Antwerp*; for the King's Confeſſor does apprehend the mentioning any ſuch thing to the King of *France*, becauſe the King having given his direction already to a Miniſter of State, who is at preſent in the Army againſt *Holland*, it belongs only to that Miniſter to put this Affair in Execution; for it is the way here, that no Miniſter dare to act in any Matter that is not committed to his Province; for the King will have it ſo. And therefore if the Confeſſor be not preſſed with ſome new Motive, I ſhall hardly be able to make him act. Our old Ambaſſador Monſieur *Rouvigny* is arrived in Town, where *St. Germain* now is, he came on *Saturday* laſt, and *St. Germain* has let me know, that he will ſee him either to Day or to Morrow; which he could not do before, by reaſon of his Calling, which has taken him up without intermiſſion till Yeſterday. There is no News yet, but is expected every Moment; The Town of *Ayre* is hard preſſed, and is believed will be ſoon taken. Monſieur *Luxembourgh* is taking Orders that a Proviſion of Oats be ſent to him before he goes to attack the Enemy.

* *Supposed to be the* Jeſuits.

Tranſlated out of *French* into *Engliſh* by the Lord *Ancram*.

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# Poſtſcript.

*YOu will diſcern with Monſieur* De Vertharnout, *whether it be requiſite that he comes, becauſe upon* Friday *laſt, the King of* England *has done ſomewhat to the* Portugal *Ambaſſador (of which he told me the whole Story) and I likewiſe have learnt it from Monſieur* Rouvigny, *who entertained me near an hour, under great Confidence that they had abſolutely taken from that Ambaſſador the total Uſe of his Chappel; but beſides that*

*that Monſieur* Rouvigny *ſaid, That he finds that the Storm will unavoidably fall upon* France, *and the Catholicks who are very Angry that Endeavours are made to bring a Succeſſor to Monſieur* St. Germain, *of the* French *Nation. And he further ſays, That it is abſolutely to Ruine the Catholick Religion, and to irritate the Enemies of* France, *Neither does he doubt, but that it will alſo prove fatal to the Duke, for which he abſolutely blames the Jeſuits and Mr.* Coleman, *Who are now* more than ever in the greateſt Band of Averſion to the Proteſtants, *and likewiſe to one part of the Catholicks and Miniſters of State; for they are perſuaded, ſays he, that thoſe who are of the Condition of the King of* France's *Confeſſor and of the Dukes, do Act moſt impudently, in that they are intangled betwixt the King and the Catholicks, becauſe they would introduce an Authority without Limits, and puſhes Mr.* Coleman *to make ſuch ſtrange Steps, which muſt precipitate them into Deſtruction; and above all, they will attribute this to* France: *So that Monſieur* De Rouvigny *is mightily ill ſatisfied with this Proceeding, for it is moſt certain that the Perſecution will be very Terrible againſt the Duke and the Catholicks, and all the Jeſuits; and above all againſt* France.

Tranſlated by the Lord *Ancram.*

*The following Letters were Written by Father* Sheldon, *(as he is commonly called) Directed all* (at leaſt *except* One) *to Mr.* Coleman.

*May* 22th. 1675.

YOu will pleaſe Sir with theſe to receive my Thanks for Two of yours, both which came to my hands ſince the departure of the laſt Ordinary. The Proceedings of the Parliament are ſufficiently ſuſpected by the King of *France*; And it were to be wiſh'd, that *Holland*, and the Confederates had not ſo much cauſe to flatter themſelves that the Parliament may at laſt be able to effect any thing of that kind, which is pretended. I ſuppoſe Monſieur *Rouvigny* is not wanting on this Occaſion to ſecure the Intereſt of the King of *France*. I expect with impatience the Iſſue of the Ten days, which are to produce ſomething that you intend me for a *Regallo*. I hope it will prove a Diſſolution, for a Prorogation would be of no Uſe. Lord Treaſurer, I fear, is not a Friend to the Catholicks; and yet I am told, That he has lately found the Endeavours of the Duke to have been of great uſe to him. I ſhall not long trouble you with thoſe Affairs; her R. H. I hope will allow me to Addreſs to her by your mediation, and then I am ſure the tender of my moſt humble Duty will be preſented to her with Advantage.

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*June* the 1ſt.

I Cannot omit to give you this Trouble, to let you know, that you have fully ſatisfied me, as concerning the Ten days, and I hope your next will add the certainty of it, what the Iſſue may be of Diſſolution, you may poſſibly conjecture; but I fear a Prorogation would leave all things in the ſame poſture in reference to Religion, and then it muſt needs go ill with the Catholicks, but I hope the Duke will not be wanting to improve this occaſion, and Duke of *Lauderdale* will ſure be of the ſame Opinion. I will not anſwer for Lord Treaſurer. I ſent you one lately for the Dutcheſs, I cannot tell whether it has come to your hands. I ſhall not fail to ſerve your Friends at *Antwerp*,

and

and poſſibly I may go ſhortly into thoſe Parts, and by the way find an opportunity to get an Anſwer to their Requeſt. I ſhould be heartily glad of any occaſion to ſerve you, and to acknowledge your Kindneſs towards me, which I eſteem in a particular manner; being bound upon that account to be always your moſt Obedient Servant.

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*There was not any Key found, whereby the firſt and great part of the following Letter could be decypher'd; but towards the end is written ſome ordinary Matter without Cypher. It does not certainly appear whether this were written to Mr.* Coleman, *or ſome other Perſon.*

*Paris*, June *the 8th.*

THE late Promotion of Cardinals does not pleaſe every where. The Duke *D'Eſtre* Ambaſſador at *Rome*, being admitted to a private Audience, his Holineſs having anſwered him to the point concerning the Diſpute betwixt the Ambaſſadors and the Cardinal Patron, was going to ring his Bell; but the Ambaſſador hindred him, and began to ſpeak of the Promotion of Cardinals, challenging the Pope to have promiſed him that the Biſhop of *Marſeilles* ſhould be promoted; to which his Holineſs reply'd, That he had never engaged his Promiſe to do it, and that the Importunity of the Ambaſſadors did not at all advance thoſe Pretenſions, and thereupon rung his Bell; and when the Attendants came in, the Ambaſsador ſaid he had not finiſhed his Audience, and ſtaid in the Chambre until the Company was about to retire, and then advanc'd towards the Pope's Chair, and began to preſs for further Satisfaction in that concern of the Ambaſsadors; upon which, the Pope riſing up, the Ambaſsador with both hands preſs'd him down to his Chair, and the Pope thereupon told him, *he was Excommunicated*; This paſsage is thus recounted by the chief Officer of the Nuntio here, who is now made Cardinal, and has Orders from the Pope to complain of ſo rude a Proceeding. Sir *John Arundell* ſets forward on *Tueſday*, by whom I ſhall write to ſeveral of my Friends. I am yours from my whole Heart, and muſt deſire you to get me an Anſwer from Sir *George Wakeman.*

*Paris*,

Paris, *the* 25*th of* June.

*Lett' pro Rege.*

THese are only to beg, Sir, your Excuse for not answering at this time the Particulars of your last Pacquet which I received, and have perform'd your Commands in all respects. I hope I shall hear often from you, and that you will give me some Commissions to Monsieur *Pompone*, when I shall be at a convenient distance to perform them. I approve of all that you were pleas'd to write, and am confident you hit the Design, and hope you will give your Instructions in order to procure that it may be timely *prevented*. The Duke will take, I hope, other Measures, *and then* you will have some need of the King of *France*, who methinks is not secure, unless he advance what you propose. Consult with your Friends, and advise how *France* may be Instrumental towards it. *Limbourg* is taken. The Prince of *Orange* after his great Bravour, Retreated to the other side of the River upon the appearance of 15000 Horse of the *French*. Monsieur *Turenne* has Defeated Three Regiments of the Enemy, and secur'd the Passage of the Bridge of *Strasbourg*. I shall attend with impatience to receive some Commands from you.

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*Paris*, June *the* 29*th*, 75.

I Know not Sir, by what mistake yours of the 3*d* came Yesterday to my hands, with your last of the 14*th*. Though I am at a great distance from *Pompone*, yet if you think it convenient, I shall find means to inform him of what you shall Judge fit to impart. In your last, I had no particulars, and yet I have learn't from others, that Lord *Shaftsbury* had not so cold a Reception, as you intimate; Was not the Duke interessed in it? and if so, Must it not prove of Consequence to the Catholicks, and drive at the same design against the Protestants, as is observed by you? I am glad to perceive that you are so well with Monsieur *Rouvigny*, and that you concur in Opinions. *France* can never rely upon a sure Foundation, till the Duke be able to Secure it; and Monsieur *Rouvigny* I fear is not sufficiently persuaded that it is feasible to set the Duke in such a Posture, and therefore

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it is not attempted; But did the King of *France* intereſs himſelf in it, much might be effected, and to invite him to it, it is requiſite, That he ſhould be inform'd, that all difficulties which oppoſe, may eaſily be remov'd; but the Cards are not yet ſhuffl'd, when they are Dealt you will know how to direct the Playing of the Game; and I hope you will diſcover to me ſome Hands. I wiſh I were able to contribute any thing to your Satisfaction; you know the Power which you have over your moſt Obedient Servant,

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*Paris*, July *the* 14*th*. 75.

I Had not leiſure to Anſwer yours of the 24*th*. by the laſt Ordinary, for which I beg your Pardon. "To put the Duke "into the poſture you ſpeak of, ought certainly to be the "endeavour of the King of *France*, and Monſieur *Pompone*; but "as you obſerve, Mr. *Rouvigny* is no proper Inſtrument for that "purpoſe. I have already declar'd my ſenſe, but moſt eſpecially to the King of *France*'s Confeſſor, who was ſenſible of it, "and told me, That the ſeveral Inconveniencies and Incongruities ſhould be remedied; and when the Occaſion offers, I ſhall "further inſiſt by way of humble advice, if I have no other "Ground to preſs it more ſeriouſly, that the *French* Ambaſſador "may be wholly ſubordinate to the Duke, and that nothing can "more ſecure the Intereſt of *France* and *Pompone*, than to make it "appear, that they do Eſpouſe that of the Duke. If Lord *Berkley* be Ambaſſador, then Sir *Ellis Leighton* will not be idle; and "there may be good uſe made of ſuch an Inſtrument, if the "right way be taken. I ſhould be glad Lord *Shaftsbury* had "better footing, and that he were intereſſed for the Duke. Our "laſt Poſt is not yet arriv'd, but we are aſſur'd that the Parliament will not fail at the due Seaſon, and that Lord Treaſurer fails of nothing. I hope you are ſufficiently aſſur'd that *Sheldon* will ſerve you upon all occaſions, with as great Fidelity as you can deſire; but if he may not in ſome ſort be ſerviceable to the Duke, it will be more convenient for him to change his Station; but in this he will be influenced by your Self.

*Colombe*,

Colombe, *the* 17*th. of* Aug.

*Lett' pro Rege.*

I Have ſcarce time, D. S', to give you my Thanks for the Favour of yours of the 2*d* of *Aug.* which I will acknowledge like a Correſpondent, God willing, by the next Ordinary. In the mean time allow me to aſſure you, that *Coleman* has made the beſt Judgment of the Propoſal of Mr. *Sheldon*, that the Subject, in regard to all Circumſtances, was capable of; neither did *Sheldon* deſign that the old Cloaths ſhould be thrown away till *Spain* proffer'd new ones; That which was chiefly recommended to *Coleman* was, to find out means to ſuggeſt to *Spain* that he ſhould fit the Duke with ſuch a Sute, as is there propos'd, and then perhaps the Dutcheſs's Friend would not refuſe to wear the Livery. *Sheldon* nor Biſhop of *Dublin* cannot at this Diſtance make any advance in it; but the latter, who underſtands the humour of *Spain*, thinks that if it were ſuggeſted with all the advantages that will enſue, the proffer will come from thoſe of *Spain*. *France* is not in a Condition to quit his Friends upon meer Suſpicions; on the contrary, they will render them more conſiderable to him. Here is a Perſon in this Town, that is call'd Sir *Charles Prettyman*, who has Correſpondence with ſeveral Parliament Men, from whom he ſays he is aſſur'd, that the difference betwixt the Two Houſes is already compos'd, and that they are agreed to enter no more into thoſe Diſputes, but unanimouſly to Endeavour a War againſt *France*, and to Unite the King's Subjects in that Deſign, to give Liberty of Conſcience, knowing very well, that then the Papiſts themſelves will be as earneſt againſt the *French* as any others; which I take to be a very reaſonable Judgment. I wiſh you could give me ſome aſſurance of this. But let *Coleman* know, that *Sheldon* in this Conjuncture cannot tell what may be more for the purpoſe of the Duke and Catholicks, than what *Coleman* deſires to know, whether it be the wiſh only of *Sheldon*, and indeed it is only his wiſh; becauſe he cannot tell at this diſtance how to advance any thing towards the ſuggeſting to *Spain* how he might find his Accounts in it, and from that Conviction induce him to proceed; but he hopes that *Coleman* may have Opportunities to do this, and that Effectually; His Reflections are juſt, and comprehend the whole to the full; If this way be not taken, I conceive a languiſhing condition will be the hard Fate of many to whom we wiſh well. The *French*

King's

King's Condition is in a decline; you will infer from thence what is neceſſary. When I told you that the Ambaſſador of *Spain* was ſuſpected, in reference to the Dutcheſs's Friend, I did not intend to ſay poſitively that the Duke was thereupon ſuſpected by *France*; but that thoſe that belong to the *French* King, did entertain ſome Jealouſies upon it, and that the Ambaſſador of *Spain* was frequently with the Dutcheſs's Friend, was told me by the Correſpondent of the Duke; who he is, the Bearer of theſe can tell you.

I hope to have the Diſpatch for your Three Friends by the next Poſt. If you are ſatisfy'd with the Biſhop of *Dublin*'s and *Sheldon*'s Proceedings, they are at eaſe; but were afraid that things had been ill repreſented to you, ſince thoſe of that Party have been found too blame upon that account, by the next God willing you ſhall have more upon that Subject. I pray God continue and proſper the hopes you give of your Miſtreſs. I am, without reſerve, Yours.

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*Colombe*, Aug. *the* 30*th*.

*SIR*,

I Have yours of the 22*th*, which I had anſwer'd by the laſt Poſt, if I had not ſpent ſo much time in the ſearch of *K.* from whom I expected the Diſpatches for your Shee friends. I am ſorry they are not yet ready, and that you muſt have patience till the return of the Court from *Fountainbleau*. I am glad you are ſatisfy'd with the Biſhop of *Dublin*'s and Mr. *Sheldon*'s Proceedings; and I deſire you not to apprehend that any prejudice will fall upon Religion or the Catholicks upon a Controverſie of that account, which being now wholly referred to *Rome*, muſt expect ſuch an Iſſue, as ſhall there be determin'd; but they are not uſually too Expeditious in thoſe kind of Diſpatches, and therefore I aſſure my ſelf, it will be a conſiderable time before you hear any thing more concerning that Subject. Yet becauſe you ſeem to expect to have from me *the utmoſt* of what can be ſaid upon it, though I dare not undertake for ſo full an account; yet I ſhall endeavour to give you a Teſtimony that I ſhall not be wanting to Contribute all that I can to

your

your Satisfaction, but I cannot undertake for it by this Poſt, both by reaſon of other Diſpatches, which lye upon my hands, as alſo becauſe my Indiſpoſition of Health which binds me to the obſervance of Phyſical Preſcriptions, and other mournful Accidents, do take up the greateſt part of my time, and too great a ſhare of my Thoughts.

Now I muſt Inform you, "That the immediate Prede-
"ceſſor of Monſieur *Rouvigny* did ſend for a Friend of ours,
"the next in Degree to Lord *Almond*, and deſir'd to know his
"Opinion of the Project, which the Ambaſſador of *Spain* had
"laid to draw the King to make War againſt *France*, and there-
"upon told him how it was contriv'd, that the Houſe of Lords
"and Commons, ſhould upon that Condition furniſh Money,
"and accommodate the Catholicks; thoſe of *France* ſeeing how
"far they are from any preſent Capacity of offering ſuch Ad-
"vantages, and how eaſie it is for thoſe of *Spain* to procure
"them, they can ſcarce allow their Fears to prevail above
"their Hopes after they have rightly weigh'd the Intereſt
"which Religion has in it. Yet he did not omit to ſay,
"That the Duke would not deſert *France*, though he could
"not doubt but that Religion would have the Aſcendant.
"Your Friend, and my Kinſman Mr. *K.* well known to the
"Confeſſor of the Duke, and of the ſame Profeſſion, might,
"methinks, be highly ſerviceable upon this Occaſion, if he
"would only ſound the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador upon this Sub-
"ject, and repreſent to him, according as Occaſion ſhall be
"given, the many and great Advantages which would ac-
"crew to *Spain*, and of the great Dammages that would en-
"ſue to *France* upon this account, but to make it efficacious
"he muſt ſhew the Neceſſity of engaging the Duke and
"Catholicks in the Concern of it, without which it will
"never have any ſteady Effect. I need not ſuggeſt to you
"any farther Conſiderations on this Subject, the Prudence of
"*Coleman* will direct you, and from thence I ſhall hope to
"ſee a good Iſſue for the Catholicks. I have not many
"Diſcourſes with Sir P. but he is ſtill of the ſame Opinion
"as formerly, and affirms, that no other means can effe-
"ctually conduce to the Satisfaction of the Houſe of Lords
"and Commons, and thoſe whom they are engaged for.
"If you ſee no appearance of Succeſs this way, be ſo kind as
"to ſhew me ſome other Scheme, upon which we may
ground

ground any comfortable Expectations. In the mean time we must content our selves, with such hopes as we are able to furnish.

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*Colombe*, Septemb. *the* 24*th*, 75.

I Have yours of the 6*th*, and one Weekly from *Coleman*'s Man, for all which I return most hearty Thanks; and though it be my Misfortune not to have hitherto succeeded in the Pretensions of our Shee-Friends; yet upon the delivery of the second Memorial, I was promis'd an Infallible Dispatch this Week, which will cost me another Journey to *Versailles*, and I hope to send it to you by Mr. *Nicholls*. He and his Charge arriv'd at *Paris* on *Friday* last late at Night. I was the next Day in Town upon no other Design than to meet *Pompone* upon the account of that Business. "He told me some days be-"fore, That the Interest of the Religion of the Catholicks, "was likely to be promoted by the *Spanish* Ambassador, and "the Friends of the King of *Spain*; I reply'd, That it was "too great an Undertaking, and that it could not take any "Effect, especially since they did imploy no Endeavours to "gain the Duke and his Party to that Interest; and though "it was reported here that the Duke had frequent Confe-"rences with the *Spanish* Ambassador; yet I did assure, that "there were no such Applications made, and that the Duke "was as much attack'd to the King of *France* as ever. It "would have become Mr. *Sheldon* to have said this, though "he had not been so sure of the Truth of it, as he is by the "Information of *Coleman*. The Decline of *Spain*; I confess, "must needs require a long time to regain Power, and that "first to secure his own Interest, before he can be in a po-"sture to promote that of Religion. The hopes on * *Spain*'s "side, are not so remote, and you have rais'd my Expe-"ctation from thence to no low Degree; because *Coleman* "seems not only to approve of it, but to think it worth "his pains to lay out his Contrivances and Endeavours upon "it. I with my Kinsman were engag'd, and possibly the "opportunity may now be favourable; at least if he will "not enter into the Negotiation, he may easily introduce

*Coleman*, with thoſe Advantages, as may make him be eſteem'd a fit Inſtrument, and worthy to be truſted in that Concern, and he having ſuch an Introduction, I ſhall not doubt but that he will be able to give a very good account of the Buſineſs. It draws near the 29; but I hope there is yet time enough to diſpoſe things in order to that Deſign. I do not well comprehend how the Danger is over on the part of the Prorogation; unleſs it be in Reference to that Oppoſition of the City of *London*. I ſhould be glad to Promiſe my ſelf that it were in Relation to the Duke; who is ſaid to be the Perſon that obſtructed the Prorogation, and the Procurer of the Parliaments preſent Inſtallation; The Deſign of my Lord Treaſurer, I hope will have no Effect. The Alliance with the Prince of *Orange*, ſome ſay, is ſought for by the *French* King, for one of the Dukes of *France*; but this is but a gueſs; yet ſuch a one as gives ſuſpition to *Spain*, that there is like to be ſome Clandeſtine doings betwixt *Holland* and *France*; But why do I ſo much intrench upon your better Employs? I ſhall only aſſure you, that Mr. *Sheldon* is your Servant, and that *Coleman* will always find him ſo to his Power.

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Colombe, *October* the 10*th*.

SIR,

*I Have yours of the* 20th *of* September, *And whereas you ſeem to intimate that it is almoſt a Month ſince you receiv'd any from me, I have call'd my Self to an Account, and cannot find that I have effectually been ſo much wanting to my own Satisfaction, as not to continue upon you ſufficient Provocation to allow me the Favour of your Correſpondence. I am become ſo miſtruſtful upon this reproach, of my own Memory, that I could almoſt perſuade my ſelf to doubt whether I have inform'd*

*you*

*you of a delay that is caſt upon the Pretenſions of your Shee Friends, which I hope will ſoon be remov'd, ſince it only depends upon a Return from* Liſle, *whoſe Magiſtrates were to be conſulted in that Concern; and upon their Anſwer, I hope you will have Satisfaction to the Addreſs which has been made. Have I not likewiſe bemoan'd my misfortune, for having had only a Glimpſe of Mr.* Grey, *having diſappointed each other, by my going to him, and his coming to me, upon the ſame Day? This I do chiefly reſent; becauſe, I ſuppoſe he might have had ſome particular Commiſſion from you, and had not Opportunity to make me partaker of it. The Secretary of Monſieur* Rouvigny, *has inform'd me of your good Correſpondence with his Maſter, which muſt needs render you Suſpected to the* Spaniſh *Ambaſſador; but I ſhall expect according to your Promiſe, the Iſſue of my Kinſman's Negotiation;* What Meaſures the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador has taken with the Parliament, a little time will diſcover; but unleſs the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador ingages the Duke upon the account of the Catholicks, the King of *Spain* will not find his account. *The Duke, I ſuppoſe, has gain'd no ſmall Credit with the Parliament; It is reaſonable to think ſo, if Common Report may be allowed for Truth. What muſt that produce? any Advantage to the Catholicks? Does not the Duke expect to be Re-enſtall'd? Was not that promis'd by thoſe of Prorogation? Are there any Appearances of theſe Expectations from the Parliament?*

*We are here inform'd, That the Parliament deſigns to give Money for the Fleet, upon Condition the King will reduce the Number of the* French *Men*

*of*

*of War, to the account which they formerly kept with Queen* Elizabeth. *The King here has of late been ill disposʼd, and subject to a little* Vertigo. *He has laid a Tax upon the men of the Roab, which will furnish a vast Sum without any burthen to the People; and he has given out Commissions for great Leavies for the next Campaign.*

*I shall not over-charge you with News, you are better informʼd from other hands. Your Town will shortly be the Scene of News, and then I hope you will make me Partaker of the Transactions. In the mean time I am,*

SIR,

Your most Obedient

Servant

*L. S.*

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*The*

THe Letters next following were written by Sir William Throgmorton to Mr. Coleman.

*And his general manner of Writing was this; he wrote a Letter with ink concerning ſome ordinary trivial matter, as about Perſons taking Coach to Travel, about the faſhion of wearing Crape,* &c. *writing the lines at a pretty broad diſtance, leaving a ſpace between for interlining: In this ſpace, and upon the remaining blank of the Paper, he wrote with* Juice of Lemmon *the Secret Matter which now is here printed.*

*The uſe of ſuch Writing was, that if the Letters were intercepted, or miſcarried, nothing would appear to the* Caſual Reader *but the frivolous Matter writ in* Ink, *but when they came to the hands of his Correſpondent, he heated them at a fire, and that made the Lemmon Juice appear, and become legible.*

*But it falls out in this way, that if the Writer do not ſtrictly watch, he will ſometimes write dry, the juice which was in the Pen being ſpent. Alſo by unwary holding too near the fire the Paper is liable to be ſinged.*

*By ſuch accidents there happen to be ſeveral Obliterations, and Blanks and Breaks in theſe Letters; which interrupts the Current of the Diſcourſe in ſome places; and thereby part of this Evidence is loſt.*

*Paris* 1. *December.*

MR. *Pompone* return'd me my Paper again yeſterday, and told me that the French King had ſeen it, and was extreamly ſatisfied with it, that nothing pleas'd him more, than the aſſurance I thereby gave *him of my Confidence that the Duke was reſolved to continue his kind purpoſes to him, that he deſire me, that I would aſſure the Duke that nothing ſhould turn him from this towards him, and that he ſhould not rejoyce in any thing more than to be able to help him to be, or to ſee him by any means cheif Factor for our Company, for that* he very well knew, that nothing but that could ſecure his own Stake there, what therefore his *Lett. pro Rege.*

Sentiments of Lord *Arlington* were we might gueſs, and how gladly we Would ſee him diſpos'd of as we deſire, but that he thought his medling in it would rather hinder than advance our deſign, however that he was willing to receive directions in it from the Duke, and that he ſhould alwayes be ready to joyn and work with him in any deſign he ſhould judge for the good of that common Trade.

*That as for* the Diſſolution of the Parliament to be, he he judged it an admirable, nay *neceſſary work*, but that the time being yet pretty far off, and that *Spain*, the Emperour, and *Holland*, having choſen the King for the Umpire of the Differences between them and him, he thinks he may ſtay a little in that point, till he hears from the King upon his Umpirage, and ſees what courſe he intends to take for it, but that he abſolutely relied upon the Duke, for the chooſing of proper Sides-men in that buſineſs, for that he put his only confidence in him for it; he told me moreover, that the French King would gladly have writ to the Duke, but for fear of accidents, which might turn it to both their diſadvantages, but that as he abſolutely believed the account I gave him of the Company, and Trade, and the Dukes great affection to him, though I had no Order from the Duke for it, becauſe he very well knew how I was concern'd for him, for he hoped the Duke would put the ſame confidence in this that I told him from his part, that all this was very fine and head, but that for all that to delay working for the diſſolution of the Parliament might be dangerous, and that therefore I deſired him to move the French King to conſider of it again, that for my part he ſaw I was an unimployed perſon in it, and had no other deſign but their good as they were common Traders, but that by what inſight I had in the Trade, I thought they ought to loſe no time, and ſo hazard little accidents for ſo great a good, for that at this rate of third hand talking they would never underſtand one another, or effect any thing, though they did me great honour to offer me ſo much truſt upon my private credit, that yet by that means and general Talk they would never be able to carry on the Trade roundly: We parted then with this after a long diſcourſe and many arguments, that he would again propoſe the thing to the *French* King, and that he thought my

reaſons

reaſons were ſo convincing and kind to them, that he doubted not, but the *French* King would either himſelf, or order him to write, and that in four or five dayes I ſhould hear from him.

Pray direct your Letter to Mr. *Mer* at the Corner of the ſtreet of St. *Benet* in the *Fobourgh* of St. *German* at *Paris*, and in the bottom and give me ſum for you

*I cannot doubt that* I could of my friend here and ſome others make half an O, try you what you can there in caſe the *French* King ſhould be backward in that point, and that that ingredient ſhould be requiſite to carry on the work I ſpoke with *Mounſieur Pompone* again, of whom I had almoſt the ſame ſtory I gave you in my former, but that truly had not had opportunity to ſpeak to the King, yet alone but that he would, and much of that; they ſeem to wonder much they hear nothing from the King, yet upon this late buſineſs, his Factor here has had yet no manner of orders what it concerns them, as themſelves ſay, to have the Duke their friend in this buſineſs, but yet I begin to doubt they would willingly engage him to be ſo through the reaſon of his own intereſt and as many fair words, and what elſe you pleaſe, but pence: that that is the reaſon they were writing, yet for fear of coming to cloſe dealing, that is the Parliament is ſet far off, and they think cannot poſſibly come to joyn till the Spring, if in the mean time by the Duke his heartineſs for them, which, as I ſaid, they think his own intereſt and their own great expreſſions of kindneſs will ingage him to, they can get a good accommodation and regulation among all the diſſenting Brothers they have their aim, if not they think the ſame price will do four months hence as well to ſtop them as now, though they are infinitely miſtaken all I can for to keep that intereſt on foot againſt them will certainly be the greateſt perhaps the only means of compaſſing what they ſo much deſire; but parting with ready mony you know is a hard thing, eſpecially with Merchants: if you can think of any thing more for me to ſay upon this ſcore, pray write it in *French*, that I may ſhew it them, that is what you think fit they ſhould ſee, for *Pompone* deſired me that I would let him know when I heard any thing, but if I hear nothing from you, I think it is the beſt

way to let him alone a little, perhaps it may make them the forwarder, especially if *Sweden* and *Holland* court the King so much to draw him the one way, and the other the contrary, as I hear they do; and if the Duke will but play that Game cunningly, he may certainly bring the French King to what he pleases, though I must confess I had rather have him have 200000 pounds of the Catholicks, than 300000 *l.* of the French King, that is to get the Parliament dissolved, for that would shew the French King what the Duke was, and would make him much more helpful and complaisant to him; but here is the Work you'l say, and I must confess, it is such a one too, as takes up my thoughts night and day, and I would have *Coleman* think of it too, for it would be a great work, as it is a difficult one, and perhaps is an absolute necessary one: I shall in a little time let you know somewhat certain from it, but I believe I may venture to promise half 100000 *l.* from hence; sure 100000 *l.* on your side might be compassed. The Man I so often spoke to you of in this business is the best Man in the World, he swears it shall not stick at all his Estate, but the Duke shall be accommodated. And with all this his cheif Friends, as *Pompone*, and *Colbert*, and *Louvois*, as much divided about war or peace as is possible. Now, I say, with all this if the Duke would strike the stroke without them you would see what an operation it would be, and on my soul I believe a quarter of 100000 *l.* or less in the glistering mettal to the King of *England* himself into his own pocket may weigh as much upon an occasion with him, as ten times as much into the common Stock, or buy Land with, and if such a business

to the Duke he may make his account on it when he pleases, he shall not want it long for that purpose. I then resolve not to see *Pompone* for these reasons: you say you had not spoke with the Duke, but he had had a long discourse with *Ruvigny*, which you knew not what it was, nor what the Duke knew of Lord *Arlington* in his business, nor what perhaps he now would have me do. *Ruvigny* failed to write what he knew, and what the Duke told I will not therefore come to them with my fingers in my mouth, nor to be caught, in that I resolve not to see them, till I hear from you again: You say not a word, how the acceptation of the King for Umpire relishes with you, nor what the King intends, who shall

go

go and ſo forth, pray be plain in all theſe points; your direction is a *Mounſier Mercers au evine de la ruz* St. *Benvoiſt Fauxbourg*, St. *Germaine* I have asked you but you forget it, I writ to you in my firſt Letters to Mr. *Bradſhaw* about the 100, *l.* I doubt I muſt have more ere long, but you ſhall have ſix weeks time for it: What you writ here concerning helping my ſelf to money, one way which you mention is a tickliſh point, the man is of a Jealous humour, and if I ſhould do any thing ſhould look like ſelf-intereſt I ſhould ſpoil all, you may be ſure I ſay all to him imagine, but I muſt not ſeem to aime at but let it come of it ſelf. Adieu, I am ſure I am tired.

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MOunſieur *Pompone* came to Town laſt night, but I am of opinion ſtill, that I ought not to ſpeak to him again, till I here more from *Coleman*, and that for many reaſons, drawn both from *Coleman*, and his own Letters, from obſervations of things here, and from ſome diſcourſe, as I had lately on the Exchange with the King of *Englands* Factor here. He is certainly one of the ſhrewdeſt dealing men that I know, and that makes me extreamly cloſe with him, pretending great ignorance in all ſorts of Commerce; but for all that his goodneſs to me (as he would have me believe it) flows ſo naturally from him, that we are never together as often as he can contrive it, he of himſelf to dine with me, which is a freedom you know not uſually taken by Merchants, and upon all little occaſions inviting me, but he enters with great ſeeming confidence and freedom into a Diſcourſe of the moſt myſterious points of our Trade, and how he came by it, for he would have me underſtand the Duke was not by him now: whether this be a wheedle of theirs upon him, or that he intended it as one upon me, I know not, but their backwardneſs makes me ſuſpect Mounſieur *Ruvigny* has ſome underhand dealing, and that he may keep them here in expectation of it, and that he holds them in hand, that it is time enough to think of the Parliaments being diſſolved if that fails, and that the Duke will let nothing ſlip to ſecure the Parliament diſſolved however for his own ſake; and at laſt, if all does fail, that which we ask, they think, is a ſure

Card to make the King and us do what they lift, when nothing elſe will: Now methinks indeed in my humble judgement, I would not have the Duke fail them in this; I would have him puſh with all the vigour and force imaginable to diſſolve the Parliament, and I would have

for on my Conſcience

without two or 300000 *l.* do it as with them, and then if he would give me leave, methinks I could turn it inſtantly more to his advantage, by ſhewing them how little he wanted two or 300000 *l.* to help him in that or any thing elſe, and that now if they would come upon terms. Now what his deſign in this may be, God knows, but I am ſure if it be to pump me he ſhall loſe it, for I never diſcover more knowledg of any thing than a man of my converſe in the World and Genius, which he is well acquainted with, muſt be thought to have; or perhaps it may be that by the old friendſhip I have had with *Coleman*, he may think to ſecure him by me, and ſo if Trade grows naught on the other ſide, for you remember how Lord *Berkly* and Sir *Ellis Leighton* have alwayes ſpoke of his behaviour between Duke *Lauderdale* and Lord *Arlington*, and how he, they ſay, hath attached himſelf to the latter ingratiate himſelf at leaſt with the Duke, or perhaps he may have a real intention of ſerving the Duke, if you pleaſe in Charity and Generoſity we will believe, but in Prudence we will not truſt too, and therefore I continue the ſame *Ignoramus*; and the more full he is in his praiſes of the Duke, and in Diſcourſes of him, the King, and *Lauderdale*, and Lord Treaſurer; the leſs I either know the Duke his concerns, or any things elſe. Often we talk too of the French King and Monſieur *Louvy*, and of War and Peace, and in this Diſcourſe he told me the day before yeſterday, that he found the French King and his had great expectation of what Lord *Arlington* ſhould do for them, nay, that he beleived, they might have ſome confidence in him or it, he wondered how they came to little things equally and fair between us, (without which nothing can laſt) we will being thereto led a little by intereſt, but much more by inclination) give them the preference and refuſal in all bargains, but if not, we may then truly tell them we muſt endeavour to make our beſt market; they

know

know the advantage Fortune hath now more than ever put into our hands, by giving us the Scales to hold, wherein all European Commodities are to be weighed, and I hope then the diſſolution of the Parliament being compaſſed, the Duke will never ſuffer the King again to quit that; if this does not bring them to any thing you call reaſon I will give you my head; for I muſt tell you the French King is mightily divided at this very hour in his thoughts, and perhaps more agitated than ever he was in making any reſolution, having (or I am much miſtaken) one Boot on and
ſought ſomething in him making him a little weary of what is on already, and another thundering

*The reſt not legible.*

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I Am heartily glad to hear by your Lady you will be return'd to *London* to receive this, which, I pray, loſe no time to ſhew his H. I wrote you word before you went that I thought I ſhould ſoon be in *England*, for I am confident they would have ſent me, but your going into *Flanders* (of which they had notice before you would have been croſs the Sea, I cannot imagine, but ſure I am they told me of it as ſoon as I came to the Army) I ſuppoſe may have hindred that, and retarded the propoſitions, which I have order to make his H. till now, for they have been much diſquieted about it, and I have had much a do to aſſure them, that *I* was confident there was nothing deſigned by it, to their prejudice, for that *I* was ſure the Duke was as much by inclination as intereſt diſpoſed to prefer their Alliance and Friendſhip to all others, and that they would take it for a certain rule, that if they were not wanting to themſelves, we ſhould never be wanting to them. The King here is certainly diſpoſed as much as can be for the intereſt of his H. but is wife and very cautious, however by theſe Propoſitions, which *I* have order to make to his H. and which are word for word as *I* took them from *Pere Ferriers* mouth, for *I* writ them down preſently, and ſhewed it to him afterwards, and keep it for my juſtification, that *I* writ no more than *I* was ordered, you will ſee that it now depends only upon his H. to conſider of a way, that will beſt ſecure his intereſts,

and

and with all a good correſpondence with them here, for that we muſt alwayes perſwade our ſelves in the thing they propoſe to themſelves by it, I ſay let but his H. conſider of that, and then what he would ask of them here in order to it, and I doubt not (God willing) if he will honour me with his inſtructions and commands, but I ſhall procure him any thing which in reaſon he can expect, either of mony or any thing elſe; if therefore his H. ſhall be pleaſed to think well of this, and proceed in it, I will meet you any where privately to receive his H. commands and inſtructions by you, or if he will, *I* doubt not but *I* can put my ſelf in a private way to come for a night to receive his Orders my ſelf, I pray be very cautious that there be no ſuſpition given of any thing of this by you for the King is very ſcrupulous here even of ſome of his chiefeſt Miniſters, whom perhaps he may apprehend people have been, or at leaſt have endeavoured to be dealing with, and *Pere Ferrier* poſitively charged me to communicate it to no one, but the Biſhop of *Dublin*, of whom they have a good opinion, for he ſaid they would have to do in it with none but us, but *I* prevail'd at laſt that *I* might do it by you or Collonel *Talbot* in *England*, for that being they would not yet let me go my ſelf, and it was impoſſible, but *I* muſt imploy ſome body, therefore *I* would not write to the *D.* and that *I* anſwered for you as for my ſelf, to which at laſt they conſented: *I* intended to have taken the liberty to have writ to his H. but this to you *I* think will do better, *I* pray you therefore preſent my moſt humble duty to him, and if *I* have done any thing amiſs in this, it is for want of judgement not of affection and duty, and *I* am ſure of one thing, that if perchance our Counſels ſhould go another way, *I* have done nothing that can prejudice him, if they be not, but that this alliance ſhall be adjudged advantageous, *I* have had the good fortune to work my ſelf into ſuch an eſteem and opinion here with ſome of the ableſt to ſerve his H. that *I* am an honeſt man, that *I* dare promiſe my ſelf they will put confidence in me, and *I* ſhall be able to ſerve him, for to do which pray aſſure his H. with all humility, that *I* ſhall alwayes be ready to venture my life and fortune.

15. *Dec.*

*Decemb.* 15. 1674.

I Am heartily glad to hear by your Lady you will be returned to *London* to receive This, which I pray loſe no time to ſhew his H. I wrote you word before you went, that I thought I ſhould ſoon be in *England*. For I am confident they would have ſent me; but your going into *Flanders* (of which they had notice before you could have croſt the Sea, how I cannot imagine, but ſure I am they told me of it as ſoon as I came to the Army) I ſuppoſe may have hindred that, and retarded the Propoſitions, which I have order to make his Highneſs, till now. For they have been much diſquieted about it, and I have had much ado to aſſure them that I was confident there was nothing deſign'd by it to their prejudice: For that I was ſure the Duke was as much by Inclination as Intereſt diſpos'd to prefer their Alliance and Friendſhip to all others, and that they ſhould take it for a certain Rule, That if they were not wanting to themſelves, we ſhould never be wanting to them. *The King here is certainly diſpos'd, as much as can be, for the Intereſt of his Highneſs, but is wiſe, and very cautious. However, by theſe Propoſitions, which I have order to make to his Highneſs, (and which are word for word as I took them from Father* Ferriere's *mouth, for I wrote them down preſently, and ſhewed it him afterwards, and keep it for my juſtification, that I wrote no more than I was ordered) You will ſee that it only now depends upon his Highneſs to conſider of a way that will beſt ſecure his Intereſts, and withall a good Correſpondence with them here. For that we muſt always perſwade our ſelves is the thing they propoſe to themſelves by it. I ſay, let but his H. conſider of that, and then what he would ask of them here in order to it, and I doubt not (God willing) if he will honour me with his Inſtructions and Commands, but I ſhall procure him any thing which in reaſon he can expect, either of Money, or any thing elſe.* If therefore his Highneſs ſhall be pleaſed to think well of this, and proceed in it, I will meet you any where privately, to receive his Highneſs Commands and Inſtructions by you; or, if he will, I doubt not but I can put my ſelf into a private way to come for a night to receive his Orders my ſelf. I pray be very cautious there be no ſuſpicion given of any thing of this with you; for the King is very ſcrupulous here, even of ſome of his chiefeſt Miniſters, whom perhaps he may apprehend people have been, or at leaſt have endeavoured to be dealing with. And Father *Ferriere* poſitively charged me to communicate it to no one living but the Biſhop of *Dublin*, of whom they have a good opi-

nion. For he ſaid, they would have to do with none but us. But I prevail'd at laſt that I might do it by you, or Col. *Talbot* in *England*. For that being they would not yet let me go my ſelf, it was impoſſible but I muſt employ ſome body, and that I could not elſe write to the Duke, and that I anſwered for you as for my ſelf: To which at laſt they conſented. I intended to have taken the liberty to have wrote to his Highneſs; but this to you I think will do better. I pray therefore preſent my moſt humble duty to Him; and if I have done any thing amiſs in this, it is for want of Judgment, and not of Affection and Duty. And I am ſure of one thing, that if perchance our Counſels ſhould go another way, I have done nothing that can prejudice him. If they do not, but that this Alliance ſhall be judged Advantagious, I have had the good Fortune to work my ſelf into ſuch an eſteem and opinion here, with ſome of the ableſt to ſerve his Highneſs, that I am an honeſt Man, That I dare promiſe my ſelf that they will put confidence in me, and I ſhall be able to ſerve him. For to do which, I pray aſſure his Highneſs with all humility, that I ſhal always be ready to venture my Life and Fortune.

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*Paris, December the* 22th, 1674.

I Am ſorry to hear by your laſt, that you know ſo little of Lord *Arlington*'s proceedings; for I judg, nay, am morally ſure, if the Duke be really ſo, that the Duke is juggled with and kept in the dark, and D. *Lauderdale*, and the Treaſurer too perhaps; for it is impoſſible but that the King muſt have known ſomething of what has been done at leaſt that he was upon his return before yours was writ, when the King's Factor hear could tell me three or four dayes agoe that he had a Letter from him, in which he told him he was upon his departure, and that he ſhould not ſtay there above four or five days at moſt longer. I muſt confeſs *Ravigny* is much ſuſpected by me, and the *French* King's backwardneſs in coming to the point, and other little circumſtances which I obſerve, but cannot ſo well expreſs, makes me believe he had an underhand dealing, which keeps them in ſuſpence. *I told you in my former that if the Duke had power enough upon his own ſtock to carry on the Trade, and compaſs the Parliaments Diſſolution, that it was my humble Advice, he ſhould do it upon any terms in the world; for that they would be glad to come in Partners, after they ſee it was done upon any advantagious terms to the Duke whatſoever: but if you find you cannot probably do it without two or three hundred thouſand pounds,*

*you muſt reſolve to give ſome body ſome power to make Treaty, back'd with your Athority, and to endeavour to colour the buſineſs, and ſhew them (as on my Soul it is their true Intereſt) what ever Projects other people may have put them on; for they have ſo mean an Opinion of the King, and do ſo little regard his Word or Government, that you cannot imagine how they deſpiſe him, and all the Company: And if the Duke ſhall ſuſpend this too, and not purſue it vigorouſly ſome way or other; that is, endeavour to do it himſelf, if poſſible; if not, uſe ſuch means as are proper to induce them to help them: I ſay, if he does not, I really fear they will judg Sloth and Idleneſs an Epidemical Diſeaſe; and he tainted with it, as well as the reſt, and conſequently no more to be valued or depended on. I would therefore earneſtly deſire the Lord* Arundel *and* Coleman *ſeriouſly to conſider and adviſe with the Duke about it. The firſt, without doubt, if upon his own ſcore and ſtrength, would do his buſineſs in all reſpects: but if that cannot be, we muſt endeavour to make the beſt Market we can with the French King.*

This is my Opinion: if it be wrong, correct it, but pardon me. One *Vardell*, a famous Man-Midwife, (Author of the Book the Abbot ſent you) was yeſterday with me, and, in ſhort, offers me a ſet of Coach-Horſes, if I can prevail to get the Duke ſend for him over, and to be but by at the Dutcheſs her Labour, he hopes there will be no occaſion to make uſe of him, nor any of his kind, nor does not ask a penny of Money; for, he ſays, he deſires only to be ſent for, the noiſe of which will get him ten thouſand pounds. I hear the Abbot *Rizzini* has writ for him to Mr. *De Puy* and the Counteſs: If it can be compaſſed, I tell you what I ſhall get, let him look to what he ſhall get: Methinks the thing ſhould not be difficult, for help and advice cannot be amiſs; they may chuſe whether they will make uſe of him or no; and they cannot have him at a cheaper rate than for nothing.

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*Paris, Decemb.* 16. 1674.

I Am extreamly glad you were ſatisfied with mine of the 15*th*, and that ſeems to be ſo, I am ſure there is nothing in the World I covet more than that he ſhould be ſo. I ſhall long for your next, and that the Parliament be diſſolved for then ſure we ſhall ſee what the King will do, though I believe he has not been ſo ſilent to his Factor here for I am confident he had Orders for ſomething two Poſts laſt, though for what I cannot poſſibly learn. On my word it behoves

your Traders to beſtir themſelves now, for it is that which will cauſe Enemies, and it is Reſolution muſt do the buſineſs. I am glad you approve of my not ſeeing *Pompone*; though I ſhould be glad to have ſomething to the purpoſe, to ſee him withal. Methinks I could talk otherwiſe if my .... were rais'd but a little, which it would be to ſome purpoſe if the diſſolution of the Parliament were compaſs'd. On my word, I ſee not that things go ſo bad, but that ſuch a buſineſs would make them very reaſonable Men. My Lord *Duras* is coming to you, you know I have always loved him, and am much his Servant, whether he makes me ſuch a return I know not; he is moſt extraordinarily outwardly civil to me, that his inwards is not ſo I have ſome reaſon to doubt. I only ask you to look that he does the Duke no prejudice. We have had here the ſame Story of my Lord *Arlington*'s refuſal at the *Hague*, that you had in *London*. Pray ſee what you can do for the Man-Midwife; he would be a great help to me; it goes to my heart to preſs you thus always for Mony: I aſſure you I ſpend not a Shilling, that I think the Duke's Service does not require, but yet I cannot help it; Mony goes like the Devil. Once more, pray look to *Duras*, for I am confident he would do both of us a prejudice if he could: As to the quarter of the 100000 *l.* I know not what you call *reaſonable conditions*, let me know if you pleaſe, what you mean by yours, but I mean for the procuring the diſſolution of, or facilitating of it; and then I aſſure you that I am very ſorry for that is the ſubject of it. For it is as publick as his being here, and ſcandalizes many good People, as alſo her Mother's being with child; this appeaſe for God's ſake. Let us be vertuous if we can; but if we cannot, let us not to ſatisfie their Vanity, loſe our Wit quite, but be wiſe and cautious. I ſwear upon my Soul, the reputation of Vertue, with that of his Truth, will do him more good than ten Millions.

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*January* 19th, 167⅘.

I Think I muſt ſtate the caſe in Writing again, and give it *Pompone* to ſhew Fr. K. I doubt the Biſhop of *Dublin*'s ſending to *Louvoy*'s Father: For you muſt know that the Biſhop of *Dublin* is the lyingſt Rogue in the World, he has done our buſineſs no good, for he ſpeaks with Confidence, and makes them believe he is the Man in the world with the *Duke*, and tells them

them whatever he pleases, which must make them have a mean opinion of the Duke; or if they do or do not absolutely believe him, it must make them the more diffident of Sir *William Throgmorton*: The truth is, I wonder *Pompone* doth so well with Sir *W. Throg.* as he doth, considering that the Bishop of *Dublin* speaks the contrary with as much Authority as appears to them, as Sir *W. Th.* does what he says. I told you all that was between him and *Leeroy* his Father six weeks ago, for I trace him every where; and surely never Man made Falshood, Lying and Knavery so much his business as he does. I had yours of the 4th, and if I think it as proper, after a nights consideration, as I do yet, I may french it to *Pompone* next time I see him, for I like it very well. Why should you not get *Ruvigny* write to *Pompone* the discourse *Coleman* had with him, and his liking of it? It would help Sir *William Throgmorton* mightily, at least it would give him some more Credit. *I am overjoy'd to hear what you say about dissolving the Parliament, though* 300000 *l. should not be compass'd, not that it shall make me a jot the less active, or sollicitous for it; for I am, I assure you, of their opinion, as much as is possible, that nothing will settle businesses lastingly, like joining the Fr. King's and the Duke's interests together. And when I told you there might be an advantage made by gaining the Parliament to be dissolved without* 300000 *l. I did not mean the Fr. King, but only that that would make these about the Fr. King (seeing the Power the Duke has) a little more reasonable, and that then they will come with the Duke to terms of accommodation more equal than now they will; and let us think or propose what we please, it is certain that nothing but a just ballance of things can keep their Interests long linked, and therefore I judged it for the Duke's advantage by such an Action, to gain that Reputation with them as shall shew them their benefit of coming to such an Accommodation with him, which then may keep their Amity link'd fast for all their lives.* I never was blinder nor wearier in my life. So adieu. I could not help the 100 *l.* Bill for . . . . . Pray tell *Mauson* I have done his . . . . as he desired. He is with my Wife, but I cannot write to him this Post.

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*February* 6. 16$\frac{74}{75}$.

I Account my self most extraordinary unhappy that my illness hath hindred me from seeing Monsieur *Pompone*, since businesses go so with Lord *Arlington* as they do. I assure you if it had been nothing but the hazard of my Life lain at stake, I

ſhould have ventured it to have given you an Anſwer this Poſt, but it would have allarm'd all the World to ſee one go out in ſuch a condition; by the next Poſt however I promiſe you an Anſwer, for I will either ſpeak or write to him. If *Ruvigny* hath but in any meaſure done his part, I promiſe you I will do mine: And *if the French King will do nothing, I know not how to help it; but the truth is, he hath ſo mean an opinion of the King and all his Partners, that I doubt he thinks ſcarce any thing they can do, worth* 300000 *l. It muſt be therefore, I believe, ſomething immediately from the Duke that I muſt tell him, that will perſwade him to hope for better things when he ſhall govern.* Adieu. I can ſay no more.

Superſcribed, *To Edward Coleman, Eſq; Secretary to her Royal Highneſs.*

*Poſtſcript.* This is Abbot *Montague's* Letter, which ſhould have come the laſt Poſt.

Tranſcribed, 8. *Novemb.* 78.

*Ed. Dering.*

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*Paris, Febr.* 9.

THrokmorton was yeſterday to ſpeak with *Pompone*, whom he found allarm'd by *Ruvigni*, for the King's Reſolution about the Parliament; he had told him the greateſt part of the ſtory of the Lord Treaſurer, concerning the Lord *Arlington*, though he ſaid he took *Throckmorton's* coming to him very kindly, and heard him ſpeak with great attention; which opportunity *Throckmorton* made the beſt uſe he could of to preſs the thing: he told him, that the Duke had hitherto done his utmoſt endeavours to hinder the Reſolution of the Parliament, and to procure a Diſſolution of it; That he had been in great expectation of the French King's Aſſiſtance, in which if he had but contributed in any meaſure, the thing might have been done ſix months ſince. Indeed *Throckmorton* has no orders from the Duke to ask any thing yet; but yet however *Throckmorton* knew the Affairs a little, and that he had great reaſon to believe the Duke would not be able to reſiſt the Parliament any longer, if he were not very ſpeedily aſſiſted by the Fr. King. That the Parliament was certainly very oppoſit to both their Intereſts, but irreparably to that of the French King's; for that, as he had told him before, the Duke, if he would have quitted the Fr. King, might have made good Conditions for himſelf, and ſo he ſhall

yet when he pleaſes, with the Parliament; but that for the French King he muſt expect no ſuch thing, for that infallibly the Parliament would engage the King, the very firſt moment, to joyn in War with *Spain*, *Emperor*, *Holland*, Prince of *Orange*, and *Spaniſh* Governour in *Flanders* againſt him; that he muſt not judge of the Power of the King's Play now, by what he played for him whilſt the Lord *Arlington* was Trumps, and therefore, believe it, would not be more againſt him if the Lord *Arlington* ſhould continue Trumps with the Parliament; for that I aſſured him it would be moſt powerful, and carried againſt him with great animoſity and heat; as on the other ſide, if Trumps ſhould be changed by the French King's help, and the Duke taken for Lord *Arlington* at the Parliament, he might promiſe himſelf ſomewhat a warmer and uſefuller Aſſiſtance; that he had made him diſcourſes to this purpoſe heretofore; that he had thought to have quite deſiſted, finding ſo little encouragement, and fear of being thought importunate; but that the War not now juſt upon new ſhuffling of the Cards, ſhould warn him once more, but that now he had done, for he had diſcharged his Conſcience, in doing his utmoſt for the Common Good; and if God did not ſee fit to bleſs his endeavours with ſucceſs, he would ſit down quietly, though never contentedly, before that the Catholicks and his Intereſt ſhould be thus abandoned, tho there were no other Intereſt of the Duke's or the French King's in it. And there I began to tickle *Pompone* upon that Point; in which you muſt know he doth much - - - - - - himſelf. That *Throckmorton* needed not to ſay any more to clear himſelf from any ſuſpicion of private deſigns or intereſts in it, as from impoſing any thing upon them, for that themſelves knew he never did, nor never would benefit a ſhilling by them; and that the event of things had always ſhewed them that his Intelligence was right, and his Advice ſound.

*Pompone* began to anſwer with a confirmation of the concluſion of his Diſcourſe, and told him that the King had the ſame opinion of him that he could wiſh, *&c.* but came to his old [what Remedy?] again: for that *Throckmorton* had asked three, four, or five hundred thouſand pounds; a thing unpoſſible to be compaſſed. *Throckmorton* told him, that was a miſtake, for that half of the latter, perhaps, might do it; and then told him the ſubſtance of *Coleman*'s Letter of the 21th paſt, as to time, and other circumſtances too: but *Throckmorton* told him, that after all this, if there were 500000 *l.* or double, whether he thought in his conſcience it were any better parting with it for the French King, than to have the Parliament joyn with *Holland*, *&c.* And whether he believed that double and treble that would not ſoon be ſet flying, in caſe of a War, ſuppoſing theſe circumſtances? Then he cryed, *Huy par Dieu.* Then, Sir, ſaid the other, Look to it, for it will certainly be. Then he came to it again, and ſaid, that the Duke ſaid to *Ruvigni*, that notwithſtanding he always told him the King had ſaid free and friendly things on the French King's

behalf. I answered, as you may guess, to that, but suspecting by all this, that *Ruvigni* might be his Creature, and that he was afraid he might be excluded in this business, *Throckmorton* told him, you may imagin, that I bear *Ruvigni* no good will. I protest to you the contrary; and to shew you how little that is in my thoughts, tho I must confess I think I could put them in a shorter way of doing it; Give *Ruvigny* but a sufficient Power to do it, and a strict Command to execute it, and I desire never to know it, nor will I trouble you any more to enquire after it; and shall think my self sufficiently happy if I have in any wise forwarded the thing for the doing of it effectually, which is the only aim I have, and therefore cared not by whom it was done. had promised *Throckmorton*, he would tell the French King the first opportunity all his discourse, and that he would do it with kindness, and desired *Throckmorton* to come again the beginning of the week, and he would tell him the King's Answer. This is all *Throckmorton* could do. And if they are blind or mad, you must have patience. But sure something they will do, and let it be what it will, or how it will, if the Duke can do his business by it, pray let him not reject it. His turning 300000 *l.* into 400000, makes me believe they intend to do something. I must confess I shall be overjoyed to see it to confirm the Duke: for if he give ground, *Arlington* and the Parliament have no bounds - - - You must imagine *Throckmorton* enlarged upon these heads. They had some discourse of *Coleman* too, who *Pompone* said he heard was a Man of Parts, *&c.* *Throckmorton* replied to that, what I think he could have wished himself had been said.

I had yours of the 25th just now: If you cannot reade mine better than I do yours, which is soil'd one half, your Paper blots so, I do not wonder that you understand not what I would have you get *Ruvigny* to write. I would have nothing more than what he hath done. He hath done his part well; nor would I have him say any thing about the Bishop of *Dublin*, tho he is the greatest Knave alive, for fear of mistakes; and I know you cannot explain your self clearly to *Ruvigny* in that point.

The King's Factor is much discontented against *Pompone*, *Louvoy*, and in fine all the rest. He gave me yesterday great signs of it, and pretty touches too against Duke *Lauderdale*. The French King hath cleared the business again with *Sueden*, and they are resolved again to act, you know (I suppose) what - - - rub in the way. They offer to furnish them with 24000 Men in the Spring, provided they will pay them three months now; which I think is almost a Bargain. How this may work as to some other Affairs you know of, I cannot tell; but I think, however, this should be no hindrance. *Adieu.* I am almost tired to death. Pray get better Paper, and be more careful, for I cannot reade half your Letter.

Superscribed,

*To Mris Coleman.*

Transcribed *Novemb.* 8, 1678.

*Ed. Dering.*

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## *February* the 13th.

I Told you laſt Poſt, how *Throckmorton* had diſpoſed *Pompone* to ſpeak to the *French* King, and how they were agreed, that *Throckmorton* ſhould come again, to know the *French* Kings Anſwer: which yeſterday he did, and *Pompone* told him, that the *French* King had ordered him to write to *Ruvigny* effectually on this concern; that was, That *Ruvigny* ſhould joyn that he ſhould take Meaſures and Directions from the Duke; that he ſhould conſult with him about the means to prevent the Parliament, and get the Parliament Diſſolved; and that all things that were poſſible to be done on the *French* Kings ſide, to Diſſolve the Parliament, ſhould be done. *Throckmorton* told him, this would do very well; that he was reſolved to keep his word, for that he would not be inquiſitive to know the other particulars, which he hoped however there were, or elſe they did nothing; that he was extreamly glad it was put into *Ruvigny* his hand, for that he believed him a good man, and an able man; that his late experience too, had taught him, that he would the better know how to behave himſelf among ſo many Knaves; that he had now only two things to recommend to him, ſtrongly to inculcate unto *Ruvigny*, that is (Secreſie and Promptneſs) for that *Throckmorton* did not know, whether all that he had ſaid, and which was however as much as could be ſaid to it, had evinc'd him that the thing did preſs as much as it did, but he did aſſure him that if either of theſe were wanting, or if he continued beating the buſh, the buſineſs would be loſt: that for *Throckmortons* part, he had no other deſign but the common good, *&c.* he took him and embraced him, and told him the *French* King was very ſenſible of that, and gave all the imaginable to what he ſaid; and therefore begun now, and would do all that was poſſible in his power, and as the urgency of the Affairs required. This is all *Throckmorton* for his life could do in this buſineſs, and perhaps as much too, as any other could have done in his circumſtances. For I am confident he omitted nothing that could preſs him, as you may ſee by his Papers, when the young Gentlewoman comes; what the ſucceſs of this may be, God

and is certain that *Louvy*, who hath hitherto been againſt him, and for War, is now ſo much turned again, hearing ſome diſgrace by him, that it is believed he will carry the *French* King

to imbrace Peace preſently, upon any terms. Now if this were ſo, and *Louvy* a wiſe man, it were the faireſt way for us in all the world: for nothing (it is certain) would do us more kindneſs, than to ſee the Parliament Diſſolved. But if *Louvy* be a Fool and a Beaſt, who can aſſure us of their patience, for this way and not call'd to his paſſion of fear, and let any underhand little Engineer write to you on the whole or in part, this is all I apprehend: for unleſs this be an underhand way of his, I am confident there is nothing

and then we are well enough; for let the *French* King beat about as he pleaſeth now, he ſhall be forced at laſt to come to the Duke, and his terms too; and therefore I am clearly, with all ſubmiſſion, in my poor judgment, for this; That if the *French* King does not help vigorouſly to gain the Parliament Diſſolved, that then the Duke ſhould not be againſt the Parliaments coming; for I think it is not morally probable, that the Duke will be better armed againſt the Parliament three or four Months hence, than he is now: but on the contrary, ſix Months hence, in the firſt place, the Parliament will be more incenſed and violent againſt him than now; for it is certain, they all take it for granted, that he does his poſſible for the Parliaments Diſſolution. It's a prejudice to which the longer he is about, and cannot comply it in his heart, the more it will render the Parliament audacious, mean and deſpiſed by him: for it is clear, that whilſt the Duke is at ſhall he, he looſes ground Peace yet, and the *French* King will not have made terms of Peace for all his dodging. Now when the Parliament ſhall begin to play his prank, the *French* King ſhall without doubt aſſiſt the Duke with all he can in the world againſt the Parliament. But who will enſure that the *French* King and Peace will not be friends eight or nine Months hence? and if ſo, I am ſure the *French* King ſays then, Fight Dog fight Bear, what can the Duke clear himſelf from the Parliament? let him but ſhew as much Reſolution in his Mind, as he has often done Valour in his Perſon, and not be ſtartled or led away by Knaves, or by Mens fearful Councels, as he has too many about him of the one and other ſorts, who mind themſelves more than his ſervice, and what can hurt him? I wiſh I had ten thouſand Lives, and I would ſtake them all for him, onely that a *Throckmorton* and *Coleman* may go to pot, and it may not do ſo well for the Catholicks and his at firſt, but for the----- Gods will be done; and for the other, really I cannot well pity ſome of them

them they having been ſo baſe and mean in his concern and their own as they have been. Let them ſmart, it will turn their good. I think if the Duke thought well of it, if *Coleman* ſpeak to *Rouvigny* upon this now, and that he urged him to the utmoſt in it, about 300000 *l.* it would not be amiſs, and then *Coleman* will finde what is not: for *Throckmorton* has done what he could here, except he has new matter: for it is clear that this which *Pompone* told *Throckmorton* is only either a putting him off civilly, and that they intend to continue to dodge as they have given *Rouvigny* Orders, and reſolve to act only by him; ſuppoſe which you will, I think it will be neceſſary to *Coleman* thus to deal with *Rouvigny*, that is, openly and home: for if they intend to do any thing, it will certainly be by *Rouvigny*; and if they intend to do nothing, you will by his ſhuffling diſcover it. I expected what you told me in your laſt from them both; no doubt they will Court the Parliament or the Devil, if they think him like to be uppermoſt: but let the Duke conſider of it accordingly the Duke nor *Rouvigny* truſt the King with more than needs be: you know he is not good at keeping Secrets.

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## Dated *February le* 20, 75.

I Am not at all ſurprized at what I hear of Lord Treaſurer and Lord *Lauderdail*, but ſhould have bin much, had they done otherwiſe than they have done: let us remember Dr. *Creytons* Cat, and we never will confide in them, nor rely ſo much on them, as that any thing they can do ſhall be able to diſmay us; & I hope the Duke is not at all, by what has hapned yet. *Throckmorton* has done what has bin in his power with *Pompone*; the whole buſineſs, as he hath told you in his two former Letters, is put into *Rouvigny* his hands, and truly as much as appeared to Sir *William Throckmorton*, with auſpicous circumſtances enough; it is therefore now between the Duke and *Rouvigny*, for it ſeems to *Throckmorton*, that the thing muſt be done by *Throckmorton*, or that they have not a deſign of doing it at all: and if it ſhould happen to be the later, for Jeſus ſake be not dejected at it, but on the contrary encourage and comfort the Duke all you can; for on my Soul and Conſcience, without affecting the Preacher, I dare confidently utter my opinion, that God intends it for his good, and that if he pleaſes but now to make uſe of thoſe rare vertues of courage and conſtancy with which

which Heaven has indued him, all this will turn to his glory and advantage. My humble opinion in this caſe then, if I might give it, that if the King of *France* ſhall ſtill continue to dodge, and give the Duke no vigorous aſſiſtance for Diſſolving the Parliament, that then the Duke ſhall not continue to ſhuffle between the Parliament Diſſolved, and the Parliament (as I have given you my Reaſons in my former Letters) but in Gods name let the Parliament proceed and proſecute his Suit; it is true, this is not the way one would have choſen, if the *French* King would have been perſwaded to underſtand his own intereſt; but if that cannot be, what great prejudice can accrew to the Duke by the Parliament? none in the world ſay I, if he pleaſes but with magnanimity and ſcorn to ſhake off thoſe little wretches and their Counſels, whom he hath with too much patience hitherto ſuffered to bait him continually to ſtoop and ſneak to the Parliament; and will reſolve never to receive them again that have once betrayed him, but on the other ſide put on a countenance, but above all, a mind full of noble and vertuous reſolution and courage, which will make him look boldly upon his worſt, and make good uſe of his beſt fortune; I ſay, if he pleaſes but to do this, and beſides ſhew all by the regulation of his Family as the vertuous *conduct of his own perſon, how much he abhors and deteſts the debauchery of the Kings houſe, which has made it ſo odious to all the Nation and the world, he will find that he will* have all the Wiſe, Sober, good people, and ſuch as are worth having, as well Proteſtants as Catholicks on his ſide; and he ſhall live to ſee Lord Treaſurer, and D. of *Lauderdail*, and Lord *Arlington*, and all the reſt of that crue, knock themſelves to pieces with the Parliament; and his reſolution and courage, and vertuous behaviour, will not only keep the Parliament at a bay, but will keep him alſo in his bounds too. For it is by the King his ſtooping to the Parliament, the prejudice and diſ-reputation will in great meaſure redound upon the Duke, that the Duke is to apprehend damage from: now this the Duke his reſolution will in great meaſure prevent, by keeping the Parliament in ſome ſort within his limits; and it will over and above, when Lord *Arlington*, and Lord Treaſurer, and D. of *Lauderdail* ſhall have bruiſed one another, and be at laſt all cruſht by the Parliament, neceſſitate the King to throw himſelf into the Dukes Arms, who by that time will not only be ſtrong in reputation, but in reality too, by the conjunction with him of all and generous men of whatſoever Party, with which then he ſhall uſefully be able to

ſerve

ſerve the King and himſelf; for be not perſwaded that the Proteſtants and Catholicks make a difference in this point, but between ſuch as are Rogues, and deſign a Faction. And to ſhew you that this opinion is not only ſpeculative, but that I can give you a proof, that the Dukes cauſe by what is hapned yet, is not at all loſt or deemed deſperate in the opinion of men; if you find that the Duke is diſpoſed to take this courſe, and this way defend his Birthright, his Honour, and his Conſcience altogether, I will then make you a Propoſition of a number of perſons, who you will not doubt have honour and courage by this their reſolution, and I aſſure you are reckoned amongſt the ſobereſt and wiſeſt part of the Nation, moſt Proteſtants, or are at leaſt in ſhew, and 4000 *l.* or 5000 *l.* a year apiece, who ask or expect no Reward or Offices, but onely ask that the Duke will give them aſſurance, that he will not be perſwaded hereafter to abandon his own intereſt and them, and they will give him all the aſſurance on their ſides deſire, that themſelves and their fortunes ſhall ſink and ſwim with him, and theſe are ſuch as I dare aſſure ſhall perform their promiſe, and not do as Lord Treaſurer, and D. of *Lauderdail*; and ſome of them perhaps have good intereſt with the Parliament too, that is, are of the ſame Families we are of his Cabal, but I am engaged upon my honour not to diſcover them, till I know the Duke will take that courſe that they may be uſeful to him, for they are unwilling (as you will believe they have reaſon) to expoſe themſelves and fortunes, and do the Duke no ſervice neither: for to deal plainly with you, they are ſo afraid of ſome that the Duke has about him, who they ſay betray him, and would do them ſo too, that they by no means dare diſcover themſelves what is in their hearts, they are for the Dukes cauſe and his diſpoſition, which keeps multitudes of others in the ſame ſuſpence ſay they, for they all avow that it is not his being for the Catholicks ſtartles them; they ask but the Duke to be reſolved to continue governing himſelf with vertue and moderation, to throw off ſuch people as they ſay are about him and betray him, and then give them his word, and they will ſtick by him againſt Lord *Arlington*, and Lord Treaſurer, and *Lauderdail*, and the Parliament, and who he pleaſes. I do not doubt but the Duke is courted now by *the Lord* Arlington *his Party, and ſome of the Parliaments too, but if ever he receives any that have betrayed, he will go nigh to run the King his fortune, that is, always abuſed by Knaves, when they ſee it for their purpoſe, and never truſted nor relyed on by honeſt men. I had yours of the 4th juſt now.* Mr. Boteman *ſets out on Sunday.*

## *A Paper Intituled* INSTRUCTIONS.

SEeing that his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty was angry that I went to *England*, but that he did not ſhew it for fear of giving any umbrage, and that for the ſame reaſon he hath not ſpoken with me, yet he hath ſince prayed me to aſſure his Highneſs, of ſome ſecret way that his Majeſty doth take his part in all intereſts, and will ſerve him to the utmoſt of his power; and that he is ſtrongly perſwaded that my Lord *Arlington* is not in the eſteem of his Majeſty, nor in that of his Highneſs, although that ſome do labour to perſwade him to it: he ſaith, *The re-aſſembling of this Parliament will not be profitable for the King or for his Royal Higneſs, although my Lord* Arlington *will endeavour to uphold it; if therefore his Royal Highneſs ſhall judge it neceſſary to have another Parliament, he will aſſiſt him with Money to have ſuch an one and as he ſhall deſire; and prayeth him to make his Propoſals thereupon, or upon any other thing that he ſhall judge either needful or profitable, being reſolved to do all things poſſible for his Service.* The Father hath told me of the Knavery of Monſieur *de Seſſaube*, and of the folly of ſome others of ours; but notwithſtanding all that, and alſo though his Majeſty knoweth very well, that his Highneſs hath ſent into *Flanders*, which in truth giveth him a little umbrage, notwithſtanding his Majeſty is reſolved to confide intirely in his Highneſs, and to afford him all imaginable aſſiſtance; but above all, he prayeth his Highneſs that he will indeavour by all ways and means to confirm a perfect intelligence with his Brother; he told me moreover, that if Monſieur *de Rouvigny* was not a Man to your liking, nor ſuch a one upon whom you may wholly rely, that if his Highneſs would give me the leaſt order to advertiſe his Majeſty thereof, he would indeavour to ſend over another perſon.

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## The following LETTERS were writ by Cardinal *Norfolk* to Mr. *Coleman*.

*Rome, January* 4. 76.

*SIR*,

I Received your two this week, one of 19 *November*, by your Friends way here, th'other without date, by Sir *H. Tichb.* I am glad of the Prorogation, ſo that the Parliament will not now in haſt trouble you again or others; and if finally the King will reſolve

reſolve well, and keep cloſe to it, all may yet do well; if not, God have mercy on ye. I wrote laſt week, as I incloſe now another to the ſame, and aſſure the Duke I both can and will ſerve him and his faithfully to good purpoſe, having already for the ſhort time put all in excellent way, of which more hereafter in due time, I having now very little, for ſo much I have to do. Mr. *Hayes* at *Arundel*-houſe can tell you ſomething particularly of my condition here; time giving only leaſure to adde, I am

*Yours as you know.*

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## *Rome*, 8. *Feb.* Stilo Novo, 76.

*SIR*,

I Suppoſe you received my Anſwer to your received ſince my being here, and the Duke my Anſwer unto his by Sir *H. Tich.* And you may be ſure, that the Pope will do all he can to ſerve the Duke in all occaſions, as I can as aſſuredly alſo anſwer for Cardinal *Norfork* both for his Affection and Duty, hoping before very long to ſhew it by deeds, in a due time and proportion. I have in the interim written pretty full to Mr. *Hayes* (at my Brothers as you know) to conferre with you, what my time is too ſhort to repeat about the old buſineſs, in which the *Portugueſe* would get the Queen to give Cardinal *Norfolk* his place to a *Portugueſe*, under ſeveral ſpecious pretexts, as ſome of your Friends give out here, will ſpeedily be done; and if the King had not at firſt hindered, would have been done by the Queen. Now therefore you are deſired to deal with the Duke, that he ſpeak privately and efficaciouſly with the King, to hinder it on all ſcores, both at preſent or at any time hereafter, *&c.* as Mr. *Hayes* can tell you.

Another buſineſs is, that Cardinal *Norfolk* being written unto from *Paris* by the Prince *William* of *Furſtenburg*'s Brother, to move the Pope's and others credits with the Emperour for that Prince's Liberty; it's thought good (if the Duke will pleaſe) to deſire the King to ſend his Command to his late Envoy now with the Emperour, to joyn his endeavour with thoſe of the Pope's Miniſter now at the Emperour, for the Liberty of the ſaid Prince *William*, and alſo for the Peace; and that Cardinal *Norfolk* may know from you or others ſecurely, that the King hath ſent ſuch expreſs Orders to his Envoy, now with the Emperour; of which I will accordingly acquaint the Pope: who in the interim will ſend Order there, to joyn with the King's Envoy's endeavours for that and the Peace. In the ſame

Order

Order the King may alſo pleaſe to command his ſaid Envoy, to joyn his endeavours with another, who will quickly be ſent by the Pope for the Peace; as alſo the like is deſired be ſent to my Lord *Barkley*, *Temple*, and *Jenkins*, to joyn with the Pope's Miniſter for the Peace; and pleaſe to let me know of all fully, that I may accordingly diſpoſe all here for the beſt, that I may likewiſe my ſelf write by the Pope's Miniſter to my Lord *Barkley* and the reſt about it. Henceforth, pleaſe to direct yours to me thus, *A Monſieur Monſieur* Chaumont, *commis du general des Poſtes, en ſon Office à* Bruxells, *pour faire tenir à Monſieur* Thomas Grane; and with this Superſcription he will ſend them me ſafe, as I have ordered him, and will alſo ſend mine to you ſafe and with leſs expence, putting mine to you on my account as far as *Bruxels*; and if you think it ſafeſt and quickeſt (as I think it may be) he can direct mine to you by my good Friend Mr. *Cook*'s way, who you know. I ſhould have told you, that although the *French* Ambaſſadour nor his Brother the Cardinal, do neither receive or give any Viſit, or converſe with any of the Cardinals of the laſt Promotion, yet the ſaid Cardinal hath ſent many Excuſes and Complements to me, how ſorry he is, that he cannot at preſent viſit and confer with me, as he doth mightily deſire, *&c.* And I have as often ſent the like Compliments to him; and finally the other night at a great Aſſembly at the Queen of *Sweden* (who often in publick ſpeaks mighty well of *England* and our Nation) her Majeſty ſpoke to me (*ex abrupto*) in *French*, (although ſhe uſed always before in *Italian*) and preſently called on the Cardinal *d'Eſtré* (who was there with fifteen Cardinals more) to hear how well I ſpoke *French* (as ſhe ſaid) better than herſelf; and he approaching to her Majeſty and me, who were alone talking, could not well but ſpeak to us both, which when he did to me, I anſwered accordingly, and preſently the Queen left us alone, ſo that I then began to talk to him of the buſineſs you know, of which he ſaid much, and I anſwered as much, hoping that after the fury will be paſt, theſe Preliminaries may conduce to a good effect, as is wiſhed by

*Pray acquaint your Maſter and Mr.* Hayes, *and Mr.* Vincent *alſo.*

*You know who.*

SIR,

*Sir,*

THe Bearer hereof being heretofore known to you, and having relation to me, will not need many long Lines to desire you to believe him in what he can much better inform you, than my Letters at this distance; and if betwixt this and September you have any thing more particular to inform him, or to acquaint me by him, he will about that time be returning hither; and in whatsoever may concern your Master or Mistress, he will be most faithful and active; as likewise for your self, whilst I need not reassure you of the same on my part, being

*Yours as you know,*

C. of *Norfolke.*

## *Rome, March* 1. 76.

*Sir,*

Lett. pro Rege. TIme being extraordinary short with me, I cannot often answer yours, but ordered Mr *Leybourn* my Auditor to supply. Now to your four last; unto the first I understand the Duke had mine, and was pleased to say he would answer; however I wrote again unto him by Mr. *Conne*, who I sent hence some days past, and I do now again, this Post, to him and the Dutchess (whose Answer to mine which you sent me I acknowledge) and desire their Pictures. I send them as usually to the *Portugal* Ambassador, but if you would have them sent to you, advise me that I may do accordingly: What you write of the Arch-Bishop of *Dublin*, his apparent Victory at *Rome* against his Adversary is quire the contrary; for the Arch-Bishop of *Dublin* is not in esteem here, for that nor his other practises there, which are very ill relished; neither did Cardinal *Norfolk* ever write or trouble the Duke with those affairs which were more out of Faction than otherwise, and Cardinal *Norfolk* took Order long since, That no Proceeding should be in it before his Arrival, that all might be well Examined; and those unto whom it was committed, do much approve of the Arch-Bishops Adversaries Books. I wonder Mr. *Sheldon* maketh so much Noise in that affair also, having had no such Commission to trouble himself or others in it, and if (as you say) he came thither chiefly about that business, he might more quietly return as wise, and to as much purpose as he came; thus much in short to your two first and two last which contain the same: And let the Duke be assured Cardinal *Norfolk* will serve him and all the Catholicks whether they will or no, although the Arch-Bishop of *Dublin* and his Friends are enough to enflame all, if their Malice were not well known at *Rome*, and by Cardinal *Altieri*, *Fra. Barberin*, and many others; But I dare answer Cardinal *Norfolk* is of no Faction, but against the Factious, who are in great number but cannot prevail *in iniquitatibus suis*. The Secretary of the Dutchesses Cypher is not large enough, besides hath not the Alphabetical Letters (necessary

to make words) and I find ſome numbers in his Letters which are not in the Cypher, pray deſire him to amplify it accordingly. The Arch-Biſhop of *Dublin* wrote hither to Cardinal *Altieri* a very fooliſh, ridiculous malicious Letter againſt Cardinal *Fra. Barberin*, as he hath often other ſuch like and worſe ones to others of manifeſt falſities, which I my ſelf have ſeen and have actually, written by his own hand; beſides his forging falſe Letters is a conſtant old Cuſtom of his. I will ſay no more at preſent, leſt I ſhould ſay too much; but this I dare ſay, that if the Duke make uſe of him or ſhew him his Favour, he will much diſgrace himſelf and his Cauſe, and put both *Engliſh* and *Iriſh* Catholicks in great Diviſion, which will be the eaſieſt way for the Proteſtants to deſtroy them, and every one wonders how Mr. *Sheldon* ſhould be of late ſo great a Protector and Friend of the Arch-Biſhop of *Dublin*, when to his knowledge (and many others) he was quite the contrary (as he told me) not long before the Arch-Biſhop pretending to Mr. *Sheldons* place about the Dutcheſs, but it appeareth that Mr. *Sheldon* and his Confederates by their late violent bending for the Arch-Biſhop and his ways againſt the other is more out of Faction than Zeal: However let not the Duke be troubled, Cardinal *Norfolk* will take care all be done according to Juſtice, let it be for whom it will, *Fiat Juſtitia & pereat Mundus*. But now I muſt tell you, I cannot but be ſorry to underſtand (by Witneſſes which I can produce) that ſome chief of Mr. *Sheldons* Confederates have informed that the Dukes affection is ſo much and only for thoſe and the Confederates of the *French* King's Confeſſor, That he abſolutely declared it, and ſaid he would be ſerved by them only, which if ſo *Vincent de Torre*, and Cardinal *Norfolks* Confederates may ſhut up their Shop and Traffique elſewhere, and I ſhould be glad to know it, to provide accordingly, for although it is moſt clear and true what I ſaid often in *England*, That if Cardinal *Norfolk* had not ſent *Fa. White* in Poſt haſte from *Rome* where the Dutcheſs was then, and that he and another of his Confederates had not ſtoutly reſiſted and concluſively argued againſt the Potent confrater of the *French* Kings Confeſſor, with the Dutcheſs, that that Dutcheſs and none elſe as th'other would have, (to put off the concluding of this Dutcheſs) was fitting, and to be had for the Duke, the whole buſineſs (which was then broken off) would have been ſpoiled and broken off for ever; But Cardinal *Norfolk* having notice from *Paris* at firſt of the breaking off of the other Treaty, a particular friend of his there thought firſt of that Dutcheſs which (God be praiſed) is, and ſpoke to Lord *Peterb.* of it, *&c.* (of all which the ſaid Lord *Peterb.* can tell you) and at the ſame time Cardinal *Norfolk* wrote to ſeveral at *Rome* about it, and poſted the above-named Fa. *White* with full Inſtructions to employ all his little Wits and thoſe of his Confederates (whoſe Houſe joyneth to that of the Dutcheſs) to act all poſſible, as they did to the right purpoſe, and (*nolens volens* the juggling of others,) argued ſo hotly and well that it was concluded quite contrary to the intention and expectation of the Juggler's; my Lord *Peterb.* can tell you ſomething of it, and I can much more; but ſince the buſineſs is done its no matter, I did it not to pick thanks, or for recompence to me or mine, but to ſerve the Duke and Catholick

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Religion in *England*, yet I muſt tell you that not only Cardinal *Norfolk*, but his alſo are as able to ſerve the Duke and Catholick Religion in *England* as any whoſoever, and both are in a greater power and eſteem with the Pope and Cardinal *Altieri*, and General all of his ſort, and at *Rome* and *Spain* than any whoever, and if the Pope live ſome conſiderable time (as its likely) he will make a third like Cardinal *Norfolk* alive in great Eſteem, Birth, VVorth, *&c.* I will ſay no more, but as Cardinal *Norfolk* hath ſerved the Duke long ſince in *Flanders* and *England* when he leaſt thought of it, and yet knoweth not of, ſo as he did it meerly out of Affection and Duty, he will in all times and places he can continue the ſame. Yet Cardinal *Norfolk* is not ignorant of many ill Offices ſeveral others (whom God forgive) endeavoured to do Cardinal *Norfolk* with the Duke and Dutcheſs, and alſo with the King and Queen for their factious ends; however *Qui ambulat ſimpliciter, ambulat confidenter*, as Cardinal *Norfolk* always did, thoſe malicious endeavours being but ſmall Flea-bitings, although they endeavoured the like alſo with the Pope, Cardinal *Altieri*, *Barbarin*, and all others they could at *Rome*, *ſed nihil occultum quod non revelatur*, Cardinal *Norfolk* had ſufficient notice in *England* of all, and now a more ample; but I will ever go the old ſtreight way with the *Pater noſter* of *dimitte nobis debita noſtra ſicut & nos dimittimus debitoribus noſtris*, which I do with all my heart, continuing with that other old Prayer of *dimitte illis Domine quia neſciunt quid faciunt, & ſic finitur.* But unto the other part of this point, I muſt again take leave to tell you, That it may do the Duke no ſmall prejudice, if the Catholicks of *England*, or the Pope and Cardinal *Altieri* with his Confederates of *Rome* ſhould be perſwaded of the Dukes partiallity to any whatſoever: He may be a good Friend to any in general or particular (*amicus Plato ſed magis tamen amica veritas*) but partial to none, ſo far as to the excluſion of others; Pray Sir, excuſe my freedom, which poſteth my Pen beyond my firſt intention, whilſt *ex abundantia cordis os loquitur*, and let it not be that *veritas odium parit*, my intention is good whatever the effects may prove. Finally, *Liberavi animam meam.*

Now Sir, *ad hominem* (*quia fragiles ſumus*) excuſe Cardinal *Norfolk*'s humanity, which muſt be mentioned whilſt in this Valley of miſery, as becometh an *Engliſh* man, for the reputation at leaſt of the King, Queen, Duke, Dutcheſs and the Catholicks of *England*, if any of them have a true ſenſe thereof, if not *v deant ipſi* the fault, and ſhame will ly at their Door, and damage not Cardinal *Norfolk's*, who will however be well able to do his Duty *coram Deo & hominibus*; Is it not a ſhame for them all to thruſt Cardinal *Norfolk* totally on the Pope and *Rome*, who have already *motu proprio* done ſo much, beyond all imaginable expectation? nay, is it not worſe that the King & others, ſhould endeavour to thruſt Cardinal *Norfolk* on *France*, *Spain* or the Emperour, by moſt whereof Cardinal *Norfolk* has ſeveral years ſince had great offers, but would never bite at, and ſince made Cardinal *Norfolk* more powerful offered. But if the King and the reſt Judge him not worthy of wearing his own Maſters Livery, he will rather appear ſo naked as yet to cover *pudicitiam patris* (*ſive patriæ*) *ſui* with

his

his own ſimple Coat, rather than Embroider it with others Livery, to appear like a Baſtard of his *ingrate Patria*. To obviate which, I propoſed laſt week to Monſieur *Vincent Torre*, an old expedient, I had heretofore thought of, for another good end, and was of late practiſed for another purpoſe; but reflecting ſince that not only *Qui cito dat, bis dat*, but that thoſe who efficaciouſly intend only to give good words and future contingencies, on which *non datur ſcientia & quæ nihil ponunt in re*, will ſo put off things of Execution, and always create or find difficulties, inſomuch that nothing is effected.

To avoid this therefore, and better clear all, I have bethought my ſelf of another more facile expedient, *viz.* That if the King will at once conſider Cardinal *Norfolk*, it may be thus: To Grant a Barrony unto ſuch a one, whom he may name, of Worth, Eſtate, Fidelity, Deſert, *&c.* for which Cardinal *Norfolk* may lawfully get a pretty Summ of Money, and of the reſt, in due time, farther Conſideration may be had; This the Duke can beſt manage, neither will it be a new wonder, or *Scandalum Magnatum*, although it ſhould be even for a Catholick, more than when the King would have made Sir *Francis Ratcliffe* what you know (which was more) on the ſcore, you know, I ſhall need ſay no more, *Quia ſapienti & intelligenti pauca*. If the King pleaſe to do it, and the Duke pleaſe to Act the requeſt and perfectioning of it with ſpeed, Cardinal *Norfolk* will gratefully acknowledge it accordingly, but if it be put off until better or worſe times of *futuris contingentibus*, I can although not Scientifically, Prophetically (not as a Prophet, but as an &c.) gueſs it at an end, and will no longer caſt my Cap at it, but ſquare it according to my other Mathematical and Aſtronomical Inſtruments in other Regions, wherefore before the Actions and Influences of the hot weather come on, I ſhall expect the determinations of your cold Climates, leaſt I ſhould be frozen up before I can break the Ice in due times and places.

Your laſt Letters were ſealed on the Writings, that I can well make the through ſence out of them but by gueſs, your News is grateful, although your old Friends have the ſame from you Weekly, but they have an Addition unto it, which I was glad to hear of (although I vertually believed it,) of the Dukes endeavours to hinder what the Proteſtants did to his Daughters of late, you underſtand me, and if I had Letters (*ut ſupra*,) I could write more clearly of ſomewhat elſe, in which the Pope was not ſo well ſatisfied as I wiſhed, but I have cleared the beſt I could, although I declared always my Opinion against it; but others more Wiſe and Politick went the contrary way, and knowing my Opinion, would not ask it me, as they did others, whom they thought to draw to theirs, *Sed in vanum laboraverunt*, not ſtating right, but Quibling and Juggling the Queſtion, and I having the Nuptial Veſtiment, *non fui vocatus ad nuptias*, which I was glad of, however I often offered

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Cardinal *Norfolk*, and his Confederates Services, which when accepted of, I hope to improve in all ſorts of reſpects as well as any; and as to a Penſion for the Secretary of the Dutcheſs, I do not deſpair in time, when Cardinal *Norfolk* hath a little more entred into thoſe and other affairs which he is now entring into, although you know that Penſions are hard things to be gotten at *Rome*, yet in time I hope to ſhew how much Cardinal *Norfolk* is your true friend, as you know,

*Rome*, *March* 14. 76.

My Time is quite ſpent, and Eyes almoſt out, writing ſo much; no News, Cardinal *Altieri* had ſome miſunderſtanding with Cardinal *Barbarin* the other day, Cardinal *Norfolk* keeps well with both.

*Sir*,

Lett. pro Rege. THIS Week we have no Letters by way of *Flanders* from *England*, the *French* having intercepted them, as we are told; Sir *Hen. Tich.* is gone away hence towards *France*, and ſo for your Quarters. The very morning early before he went hence, I procured him a private Diſcourſe with my Father here, in which he was much ſatisfied, and will bring my Fathers particular recommendations to the Duke and Dutcheſs, although (as Sir *Hen.* wrote to you ſometime ſince,) at *Rome* they wonder the Dutcheſs writeth not to the Pope, which when Cardinal *Norfolk* was firſt told of, he could hardly believe, being thoſe of *Rome* ſtand much on thoſe Punctilio's, as you know, eſpecially that the Dutcheſs being of that Country, either the Dutcheſs or other about her ſhould remember her to do it, it being ſo eaſy a thing, nay, and on the matter a Duty, wherefore if it be not yet done, I pray haſten it hither, and I will preſent it with the beſt excuſing Complements I can, for here they have a Good will for the Dutcheſs and the Duke, as they ſay, they ſhewed to both in the Diſpenſ. which the Pope granted to the Dutcheſs to be with the Duke, as they are, although you know it was denyed to the Dutcheſs when ſhe was in her own Countrey which denyal they ſay, was not on any ill will to the Dutcheſs or the Duke, but quite on the contrary, for both their good (the Pope having before exhorted the Dutcheſs unto it) but on other reaſons which I ſuppoſe you know, as alſo becauſe the Pope was not fully ſatisfied of the Dukes being a Catholick; which if ſo, there would have been no need of the Popes Diſpenſ. nay, that which then gave him doubt of the Dukes being a Catholick, and

which yet doth not at all ſatisfie the Pope, or at *Rome* is the Duke doing as (they eſteem it) the contrary, by going (as you know) with the Proteſtants, which you know was long ſince condemned by former Popes, that the Catholicks could not, *&c.* and in that point I confeſs I was put to my Trumps in *Rome*, when it was objected to me, although I muſt as duly confeſs, it was never yet my Opinion in *England* that any Catholick could do it, and ſo I did clearly declare my ſelf, when, and whereſoever I thought I ought, or that it was asked me, but I was informed, not long before I left *England*, that otherwiſe people propoſed ſomething confuſedly (not to term it otherwiſe) to ſome whom they thought convenient, to pick out in order to ſay ſomething to that purpoſe, *naſcitur ridiculus mus*; and ſo went on, as before, hand over head, it being well for me not to have been called to ſo wiſe a buſineſs, ſince they and others knew I was not wiſe enough to underſtand, being I did never love to go head-long in a buſineſs above my low Capacity, nor endeavour to run hand over head, before I can well go on my own Leggs, much leſs on others Shoulders. Finally, I think I could talk a great deal more Non-ſence on this, than is fitting to be written, it being more excuſable, when *ex abundantia cordis os loquitur*; then when *ex ſtultitia manu ſcribitur*; I would however ſay and write, that hitherto I cannot perceive the right way hath been taken for the Duke and *Rome* to underſtand throughly one another, nor the Catholicks and the Pope neither, but by confuſed, undigeſted (and too often Factious) Notions, which will never do rightly the Catholicks of *Englands* affairs: The Pope doth not at all deſire the Duke to do any thing indiſcreetly, or precipitantly, that all *England* may openly ſay, The Duke is a Catholick, leaving that unto his own diſcretion for a due time: but to do any thing to the contrary, as *Rome* thinketh (*ut ſupra*) the Pope cannot approve of; I have however (I am ſure) done my part with *Rome* for the Duke, who is not ſo much to be blamed on his ſide, if others who ſhould know more do not condemn, but rather approve, or at leaſt connive therein. But of all this, and ſomewhat more, more hereafter: Interim, as to what you mention of a 100 000 Crowns or more from *Rome* for the Duke is a *Noli me tangere* at preſent; which the very fear of ſo conſiderable a buſineſs ſo hard to be gotten, would frighten *Rome*: In order to other more eaſy things for the Duke and Catholicks, we muſt firſt clear other ſmall ſtumbling Blocks, leaſt we run on Precipices not ſo eaſily to be gotten off; and I hope all will do well, although *Rome* remembers, and ſpeaks often, how in laſt Queen of *Englands* time, another Pope was deceived of much more than a 100 000 Crowns, under pretence of the Catholicks in *Ireland*; However as I wrote unto you before, I am not out of hopes in ſome time to get a Penſion for the Dutcheſſes Secretary, but

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all Affairs here muſt be well matured firſt, and a perfect underſtanding betwixt the Duke and the Pope, and Cardinal *Altieri* and Rome: For although I aſſure you, That both the Pope and Cardinal *Altieri* have a particular Eſteem for the Duke that muſt be improved, and well modelled, that if he come to need it, the Cardinal of *Norfolk* may the better endeavour it: And, for this purpoſe I think it not amiſs, to tell you, That Cardinal *Norfolk* had ſome days ſince a Letter, of the one and thirtieth of *January*, left at his Lodging, from the Duke, by I know not who, yet he called himſelf the Duke's Agent; and, by what Cardinal *Norfolks* Servant tells me, He ſeemeth to be an Italian, as it's moſt probable; for, if he were of *England*, I think, he would not ſo publickly give himſelf that Name, which can do the Duke no good at preſent to be called ſo in *Rome* publickly: Although I think it were very fitting, the Duke ſhould have a good one; and, if he like of it, Cardinal *Norfolk* offers him who uſeth to write to you, Mr. *F. Lay*; for whoſe Ability, Fidelity and Activity, Cardinal *Norfolk* will anſwer, and, what he cannot doe, Cardinal *Norfolk* will ſupply, and this without taking the name of it or any Intereſt; which, certainly others would expect, and perhaps want; but he doth neither. This you may offer the Duke in Cardinal *Norfolks* and his name.

Here it is ſaid, The Empreſs is not like to live; if ſo, why might it not be thought of matching the Eldeſt of our Princeſſes there; or, if not, *France* or *Spain*.

I am much obliged to the Duke and Dutcheſs for Endeavours, if need be, That the Queen of *England* ſhould think of Removing Cardinal *Norfolk*: But, by what I hear from the Portugueſe and others, I think there is no ſuch Intent: It having been onely the Invention and malicious Reports of ſome; however my Obligation to the Duke, Dutcheſs and Secretary is the ſame. I wrote of late by Sir *He*-- to the Duke and Dutcheſs, and unto the Secretary, not long before; unto which I remit my ſelf.

Cardinal *Altieri* and *Balberini* have no great intrinſecal Friendſhip, which I ſuppoſe you know.

*April*, 18.

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Sir,

*SIR,*

I Wrote to you a few Daies ſince, and laſt Week receiv'd your Two together, of the 17th and 20th of *March*; the Two precedent Poſt-Letters being loſt: having been taken a few Leagues from *Bruxels*, So that, if you, or any Friends wrote any thing worth replying, pleaſe to give notice to them, as I do you: What you wrote of the Dukes being Advanced one ſtep towards the Catholick Religion, was a moſt welcome News to Cardinal *Norfolk*, who preſently rejoyced our Pope and Cardinal *Altieri* with it: and now yours of the Twenty ſeventh hath fully compleated Cardinal *Norfolk*, our Pope, and Cardinal *Altieri*'s Joy with it; As alſo the Dutcheſſe's Mother and Grandmother, who are in *Rome*, and Cardinal *Norfolk* preſently acquainted. No wonder if Fools talk like Fools, and Knaves like themſelves.

Your Correſpondent I aſſigned you is your humble Servant: But we will not alwayes too often trouble you with ſuperfluous Expenſive Letters: eſpecially my ſelf, who am mightily ſtreightned for want of Time.

My Humble Duty to the Duke, whom I will ſerve unto the Death, the beſt I can; as alſo the Dutcheſs, who I hope will being forth an happy Catholick: Here ſome are curious to know who will be Godfathers and God-Mothers.

*Yours,*

21 *May*

*as you know*

Pleaſe to ſend Mr. *Vincent* word, I have his of the 24th of *March*.

*SIR,*

*May 16th*, 1676.

*Sir*,

I Receive together your two of *Friday* the *7th*, and Munday the *10th April*, being much rejoyced the Duke doth ſo well, not doubting of Gods bleſſing, but if the Duke or Dutcheſs employ the Arch-Biſhop of *Dublin*, or his Adherents in *Rome*, it will but confound their and the Catholicks affairs with chymerical Viſions, which at *Rome* are not eſteemed more than to ſpoile real affairs. Neither will *Rome* eſteem a *Benedictine* coming on ſuch things as belong not properly to his Trade. But ſuppoſe his buſineſs is to get a little Money for himſelf, which is not ſo eaſily parted withall, and as to Prince *Rinaldi*'s affair, Cardinal *Norfolke* hath twice (although no body ever ſpoke to him of it) ſpoken earneſtly about, but as affairs ſtand, nothing can at preſent be done for many Reaſons, and you may be ſure that Card. *Fr. Barberine*, who hath ſo long endeavoured it, and the Dutcheſſes Mother now at *Rome*, and Card. *Norfolk*, will do their beſt when a fitting time and occaſion will be, without others, fooliſh impertinent buſie-bodies; and as to the A. B. of *Dublins* prevailing with the Duke in his late Reſolution, few or none will believe it here, he being ſo uſed to write falſhoods and forgeries, that his ſaying it maketh it not believed, but if it were ſo, *de bono opere non lapidamus te*. He did his duty, for which God recompence him. And as to what Mr. *Sheldon* pretends to ſay in the other point, betwixt the A. B. of *Dublin* and his adverſary, *Rome* needeth not ſuch learned wits, to teach thoſe who know better, others have already as fooliſhly been fidling, but neither Fidler or Fidleſtick is regarded. They may teach fools to dance if they can, for that Tune ſoundeth not right where a better is uſed. The beſt employment Mr. *Sheldon* can for the Duke and Dutcheſs is to become a *Benedictine*, and pray for them quietly, whileſt having nothing elſe to trouble you withall at preſent I am,

*Yours as you know.*

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*Sir*,

ALthough I receive yours duely, yet I unwillingly trouble you with my empty Letters, having nothing hence worth your knowledg, but as before, that whatſoever I can with the *Pope* for Prin. *Rinaldi* being a Cardinal I ſhall do my beſt in, and I am glad the Dutcheſs will write to the *Pope* which if ever before done, it's a wonder it was not delivered, as Card. *Alteri* (who ſhould know) tells me, but when this cometh I will deliver it, and tell both how the Dutcheſs ſuppoſed hitherto a former was. Your Correſpondent will be ready to obey the Dukes commands when he ſhall be honoured with

them, and certainly hath good abilities for it. The new invented reports of a Biſhop for *England* are Chymera's; that having long ſince been diſpoſed of, although the *Benedictines* and others played the fools to ſtop the Execution of it in *England* when it was, not intended to be made uſe of but in due time, which others (at leaſt as good as the *Benedictines* and the *Caballers*) ought to judge, and when due time will be, the ſame party *per ſe vel per alium, vel alios*, may do what will be to be done, for ſince the *Benedectines* could not get to be a Biſhop they would have two Biſhops in hopes to be the one, which would be *altare contra altare*, as in *Ireland* betwixt *Armagh* and *Dublin*; but would be ever *pejor priore*, ſo that they may ſet their Minds and Tongues at reſt, and look well to what is committed to them. The *French* fired the *Spaniſh* and *Holland* Ships and Gallies at *Palermo* moſt ſhamefully, as I ſuppoſe you will hear more particularly from others. They ſay many of *Engliſh* Marriners were with the *French*. My ſervice to all Friends; Mr. *Conne* I ſuppoſe with you. I am

*Yours as you know.*

*June* 20.

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*Sir,*

I Shall not need to make any particular Recommendations unto you of the bearer hereof, he being my Nephew, and in whom you may ſecurely have all confidence in any thing which may concern your Maſter, as your ſelf, or me; for I aſſure you he hath a right eſteem and fidelity for all, added to his natural good nature as well as good parts; and as affairs may occur, he will from time to time confer with you. He carrieth along with him ſome things for your Maſter and Miſtreſs from my Patron, which you will be glad to ſee, whilſt I remit the reſt to him, remaining,

*Sir,*

*Rome* 12. June, 1677.

Yours as you know,

*Card.* of *Norfolk.*

*Rome*

*Rome* 27*th* July, 1677.

*Sir*,

THe adjoyned Pacquet, which I now direct to you, contains the *Pope*'s brief in answer to the second Letter from his R. H. My Nephew, who carried the other, may about this time be near his journey's end with it; I assure my self they will both be very welcome, as that which occasioned them was to his Holiness. God grant to this new Correspondence a blessing, whereof the whole Nation may experience happy effects. I render you hearty thanks for your weekly favours, which is all I can do at present, there occuring to me here no other kind of return worthy your acceptance. The Animosity of those persons who formerly gave you some trouble is now I hope much relented; since your late Letters have made no mention of it. I wish you may continue to enjoy your satisfaction in this point, that your friends may thereby have the satisfaction of better enjoying you. I shall have my part herein, as being,

*Sir*,

Your Affectionate Friend,

*Card.* of *Norfolk*.

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*The Letters next following were written from the same place* (Rome) *by* Mr. *Leyborn* to Mr. *Coleman*. Mr. *Leyborn is said to have been in nature of a Secretary to the* Cardinal *of* Norfolk.

*Sir*,

I Found in one of your last Letters to Mr. *Grane*, a desire of more punctual Correspondence from me then Ordinary whilst the Conclave sitteth: This desire shall be complyed with, so far as it is possible for me, but I fear your Curiosity will not thereby remain fully satisfied; those within the Conclave, who look more religiously upon their

their Obligation, keeping their ſecrets to themſelves; And amongſt the great variety of reports which fly abroad, it is not eaſy to diſtinguiſh truth from falſhood. I ſhall therefore be ſparing in delivery of ſuch particulars, leaving you to the publick fame, which in the Caſe may upon the matter be relyed upon as well as the intelligence of thoſe who pretend to have the beſt information. You will find here the liſt of the Cardinals which you deſire, ranged under their ſeveral parties or heads, but the order of their promotions is not exactly obſerved, eſpecially in the Creatures of *Altieri* and *Urſini*, (who before the other of the ſame name dyed was called S. *Siſto*) ſhould be in the fourth place and *Baladonne* in the *9th*. There may be other pretenders to the *Papacy* beſides theſe which are mentioned; But I mark thoſe which are moſt remarkable. Card. *Norfolk* hath received Letters from the King and Duke, enjoyning his adherence with *France*, which he anſwereth by this Poſt, that to the Duke the Secretary of the Dutcheſs will ſee. I refer you to other particulars to what I have writ unto my Lord *Arundell*; and Card. *Norfolk* to Mr. *Hayd.* Card. *Norfolk* will not except the offer from *France* of *Albi*, dreading the dependence which would follow. A like offer from *Spain* hath been refuſed; Many are of opinion the Conclave will laſt long, eſpecially if the *French* perſiſt in their animoſity againſt *Altieri*, who will be able in ſpight of them to hinder the Election of any whom they would endeavour to have choſen without his concurrence. It would be a great ſervice to the Church if this quarrel (which ſeems to have no deep bottom) were taken up; The preſent conjuncture ſeems moſt proper for it, and Card. *Norfolk* might be a proper inſtrument. I hear our Country-man the Cardinal of *Norfolk* hath his health well in the Conclave, and gains much in the opinion of his Brethren. As matter occurs to feed your Curioſity, you ſhall hear further from,

*Sir*,

*Sept.* 5. Your moſt humble Servant.

*W. L.*

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*Sir*,

THe Letters which came from you the laſt week, had been acknowledged and anſwered the ordinary day, and by the ordinary way, had not the expectation of the great buſineſs perfected this morning made me willing to defer writing two days longer. Cardinal *Odeſchelechi* is the perſon on whom the great lot is fallen, by an unanimous conſent of the Electors, and who was deſigned before by a general deſire of the people; the two great Catholick Monarchs concurring likewiſe in the Election, by their approbation of it, we have reaſon to promiſe our ſelves that great matters will be done in his Pontificalte, for the advancement of Catholick Religion. We want here no more at preſent to render our joys compleat, than to be aſſured that your Miſtreſs

Miſtreſs is happily delivered of a Young Prince. This we hope will be the Subject of your next Letter, which therefore is expected with great impatience. My Lord hath by the Currier who carries theſe writ both to your Miſtreſs and the Duke: You need not be put in mind, how requiſite it is that the Dutcheſs loſe no time in this occaſion, but write with what convenient ſpeed ſhe can to his Holineſs, from whom ſhe may promiſe her ſelf all expreſſions that ought to be expected of a moſt tender and Fatherly affection. The time I have for writing of this is ſtole from other buſineſſes, which now calling for it again, Oblige me to Subſcribe,

*Sir,*

*Rome*, Sept. 21. *Your moſt humble Servant.*

W. L.

Card. *Norfolk* judgeth it neceſſary that the Duke write alſo to the *Pope*, and that the Dutcheſs Secretary may do well to propoſe; what was writ in the laſt Letters concerning Prince *Rinaldi* will be taken into ſerious Conſideration: greater difficulties are to be overcome than you there without a long Diſcourſe will eaſily be perſwaded of, however the perſon to whom the buſineſs is recommended will not be wanting on his part:

[*This laſt* P. S. *is writ with the Cardinals hand.*]

Juſt now I underſtand of the Dutcheſs delivery of a Princeſs, which I told the *Pope*, and all the Cardinalls of, who are all very glad; the *Popes* name is *Innocentius* XI.

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*Rome*, Apr. 17*th.*

*Sir,*

YOu will not wonder at my ſeldom Writing, if you conſider how little there occurs here to write of. Mr. *Gr.* deſires me to render you his thanks for your weekly favours, and to let you know that the Letter which the Duke wrote to the *Pope*, and which was given to Mr. *Con*, hath miſcarried: The Nunce at *Paris* doth acknowledge to have received of Mr. *Con* the Pacquet in which it was, and doth ſay he ſent it hither, but here it cannot be found. The Card. of *Norfolk* hath made this known to the *Pope*, and Cardinal *Cibo*, who ſays the only remedy now is a Duplicat. I can give you no news hence worth your knowledge; Affairs at the Pallace go on in their ſlow train. *Monſieur di Luca* the *Pope*'s Auditor and Favorite hath theſe days paſt been at death's door, but now there is hope of his recovery. The common ſpeech is, that his Holineſs will ſhortly call to Town ſome of his kindred, and confer Honours on them without Salaries. It is alſo ſaid there may probably be a Promotion of Cardinals about *whitſuntide*, but nothing is more uncertain here than reports of this nature. Foreign occurrences are the great matter of Diſcourſe, in which how much our wiſe men miſtake, you may gueſs by a report, which ſome principal

perſons were Authors of laſt week, and which upon their credit was much believed, *viz.* That his R. Highneſs was in very few days expected in *Florence*, and that Sir *Bern. Gaſcoyn* by the great Dukes Order was gone to receive him at the Frontiers of that State. Some other paſſages concerning *England*, directly contrary to truth have been aſſured with great confidence, and accordingly believed. The *Pope* hath lately diſtributed ſome ſmall Penſions to the Cardinals of the laſt promotion, not ſufficiently provided for by his Predeceſſor. The C. of *Norfolk* hath (as I hear) for his ſhare 1600 Crowns, part whereof is to expire at the end of 6 Years, according to the ſtile of Penſions given upon Benefices in *Spain* and *Portugal*. This help is thought by thoſe who know his Condition, to have but ſmall proportion with his neceſſities. But in this intereſſed Country, and thrifty Pontificat, any little Proviſion of this kind is thought conſiderable. I wiſh you all happineſs and remain,

*Your moſt humble Servant.*

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29, *May*.

*Sir*,

MY laſt was of *April* 17. which I hope got ſafe to your hands; it was to acquaint you with the miſcarriage of the Duke's Letter to the *Pope*, recommended long ſince to Mr. *Caun*. But the *Pope* remaining ſufficiently ſatisfied by Card. *Norfolk*, that the Letter of the Duke was brought to *Paris* and given to his Nuncios hands, and addreſt to Card. *Norfolk*, reſolved without expecting the duplicat or ſuch another Letter, concerning which I wrote in my laſt, to direct a Brief to the Duke which will be carried by Mr. *Thomas Howard*. Card. *Norfolk* doth not doubt but the Duke will reply thereupon, and hopes in the mean time that the expected duplicat, will meet with better ſucceſs than the Letter laſt ſent.

*June* 5.

Now the Brief directed to the Duke is in Card. *Norfolk's* hands, nothing finer or more full of that kind could be expected. Mr. in few days doth depart with it, he carries alſo for the Duke and Dutcheſs two pair of Beads from the *Pope*, with moſt ample Indulgences. It was deſired here that ſome *Engliſh* Prieſt ſhould be with the *Pope's* Nuncio at *Nimegen*, Mr. *Godden* was named by Card. *Norfolk*, but he deſiring to be excuſed, I think Mr. *Caun* will go. My ſervice to our Friend in *Fleet-ſtreet*.

*June* 25.

Noiſe of peace is heard here from all places, we hope ſhortly to have it publickly proclamed by ſinging of a *Te Deum*. I thank you for your Poſtſcript which is concerning Mr. *Platt*, who is now ſo impertinent, as to declare that he was always a Proteſtant in his heart. expects with great impatience an Order to recal him, and certainly Mr. *Platt* doth deſerve it.

*July*

*July* 9.

The hope you give that Mr. *Platt* will be recalled is very welcome to the Duke of *Florence*. There is great need of it, for the Inquiſition hath already begun to ſtir in it. Card. *Cibo* hath made complaint of it to the Reſident of *Florence*, as I have ſignified more particularly to Lord *Arundell*. I long for your next which becauſe it promiſeth much, which ſtraitneſs of time made you omit in the laſt.

*July* 10.

My laſt which was by the laſt Poſt acquainted you that the Letter of the Duke of *York* to the *Pope* was received, the good man in reading it could not abſtain from Tears. Card. *Norfolk* doth anſwer will ſhortly be ſent, though upon the matter it hath been done anticipatedly; greater tenderneſs, with expreſſion of kindneſs and eſteem, could not be expected, as you are deſired to ſignify.

*July* 16.

What hath come to your mind concerning a Match with the Prince of *Florence*, and our Lady *Anne*, deſerves better reflections then I am able for the preſent to make of it; ſetting aſide the intereſt which might move the Duke of *Florence* to deſire it. I am verily perſwaded that the great reſpect he hath for the Duke of *York*, would ſet a great weight upon his Inclination to carry him towards it; I had yeſterday a Letter from the Duke of *Florence*, who continues his preſſing earneſtneſs for compaſſing the buſineſs which hath been ſo often mentioned. I doubt it may linger a great while if ſuch a reaſon be expected as may ſatisfy the Enemies of Religion. I think it might ſuffice to alledge, that Mr. *Platt* is very unwelcome to the Duke of *Florence*.

*July* 30.

The Court here will not be well pleas'd, till the new difficulties which obſtruct the peace at *Nimegen* be removed.

*July* 24.

Mr. *Gr.* is your ſervant, this day he hath a brief of the *Pope* in anſwer to the letter of the Duke.

*Aug.* 6.

Theſe muſt acknowledge the receipt of yours *June* 28. and *July* 1. The Poſtſcript in one of them was very welcome, for the ſatisfactory matter, it gave me for a Letter to the Duke of *Florence*, after two weeks ſilence to the point he is ſo much concerned for. The ſame Poſt did alſo bring me a Letter from Lord *Arundell* to the ſame effect, which I ſhall thank for ſhortly. Card. *Norfolk* hath writ to the King, and ſent a Letter from the Queen of *Sweden*, deſiring him to take her into his protection at the Treaty in *Nimegen*. Reaſons to prove the Juſtice of her pretences are ſent to Mr. *Cook*. Card. *Norfolk* would be well pleaſed if Mr. *Coleman* would promote this Intereſt with the Duke.

*Aug.* 13.

I have had thanks this week from the Duke of *Florence*, for the account gave him the laſt, of what was contained in Letters from Lord *Arundell*, and Mr. *Coleman* about Mr. *Platt*.

*Aug.*

*Aug.* 20.

We have had this week three from you, one of them gave hopes of a Letter from the Lord *Arundell*. I am indebted to our friend in *Fleet-ſtreet* for two Letters.

*Sept.* 11.

A Brief was ſent laſt year dated about the month of *May*, and carried from hence by an *Iriſh* Biſhop. Card. *Norfolk* would know if it were delivered to the Queen, the anſwer was late expected. Card *Barbarin* is in pain to know whether a Picture which he ſent to her *R. H.* hath been received.

*Nov.* 20.

Yours of *October* 5 and 8. found me in the Country with Mr. *Gra.* to morrow we return to *Rome*. I am ſorry that my Letter of *September* 11. as to that part which was in Cypher, after the trouble it had given you, proved at length not intelligible. That which Card. *Norfolk* would know if delivered to the Queen, was a Brief ſent to her from the *Pope* laſt year, about the month of *May*, and given by Card. *Norfolk* to an *Iriſh* Biſhop, who not paſſing by *England* delivered it to the Lady

*Nov.* 28.

The Confidence with which Mr. *Coleman* ends his Letter to the Prince doth much pleaſe; But that delivered by Mr. *Caun*, in naming to Dutcheſs *Lauderdale* the Correſpondent of Card. *Norfolk* is wondered at. I hope Mr. *Coleman* will on this accident judge it neceſſary to proceed with more caution, and ſend a falſe name to write to him. Card. *Norfolk* hath had ſome anſwer from *Portugal* but no reſolution, *Englands* Competitor is not Card. *D'eſtre* but *Roſpiliac*, to whoſe Uncle the Prince and Princeſs of *Portugal* owe their Marriage.

*Dec.* 18.

We are told the Duke of *Modena* intends a journey to *London*, Card. *Norfolk* will to his power ſecond the demand which Card. *Barberin* is to make in behalf of Prince *Rinaldo*; he ſaith that concern was never touched by the Duke or Dutcheſs in any Letter to him, nor did the Dutcheſs of *Modena* when ſhe was here ſeem to reliſh it much.

*Jan.* 1. 1678.

The Letter of the Duke to the *Pope*, about the Marriage of his Daughter to the *P.* of *Orange* hath been delivered. I confeſs the *Pope* remains ſatisfied that the Duke was in no fault, but in his intended anſwer vvill not touch that point. The buſineſs of the Prince *Rinaldo* I fear is not yet ripe.

*Octob.* 1. 1678. *Intercepted.*

This Week's Poſt brought but one from you under date of *Aug.* 23: it vvas almoſt overtaken by an Expreſs diſpatcht from *Nimegen* by the *Pope's* Nuncio, vvho yeſterday morning brought the vvelcom Nevvs of a Peace made betvveen *France* and *Spain*: His Holineſs vvent yeſterday afternoon to St. *Marie Major* to thank God for that publick benefit, and *Te Deum* like to be Sung:

*There were several Letters writ to Mr.* Coleman *by the late Earl of* Berkshire *under the borrowed name of* Rice. *The names of principal men and matters are therein expressed in words of* Cabal *or* Cypher: *which there was not any key found to open and explain. But at the Committee of* Lords *there was the following key made; but made by* Conjecture *onely; and therefore it is not warranted for certain. But, the Reader may use this or his own sense, and Conjecture upon the 4 or 5 of the Letters here exhibited.*

*March the 7th 167⅘ William Rice.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Lady* | *D. York* |
| *Patch* | *Arlington* |
| *Brother* | *D. York* |
| *Trees* | *Great men, Lord Treasurer* |
| *Ladys Sister* | *The King* |
| *Oake* | *The Treasury* |
| *Lady to be passively neutral, &c.* | *D. York to be passive in the matter of dissolving Parl.* |
| *Adversaries* | *The Protestant party* |
| *The two Trees* | *Parl. and Protestant party* |
| *Yorkshire and Dorset Atturnies.* | *Buckingham and Shaftesbury* |
| *Bothoakes* | *Lord Treasurer and L.* |
| *Ladies Neece* | *Duke of Monmouth* |
| *The Aunt* | *The Duke* |

*Octob. 20. 1674.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Wife of Shaftesbury* | *The Nonconformist Interest* |

*Without Date.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Dorc. Atturneys Letter* | *Shaftesburys letter to Carlisle* |
| *Gardiners brother* | *The Duke* |
| *The two trees* | *The Parl. & Protestant Religion, or, Protestant Relig. & Property* |
| *Ladys Sister* | *The King* |
| *Ladys house* | *Romish Religion* |
| *Plenipotentiary* | *Lord Treasurer* |
| *Champerty* | *Court dissimulation, or undermining* |
| *My Friend* | *D. Buckingham* |
| *Ladies friend over the Dike* | *The French King* |
| *A Terme* | *A Session of Parliament* |
| *New Assize* | *A New Parliament* |
| *His Mistress* | *The Popish Cause* |
| *The Grand Jury* | *The Parliament Men* |

*September* 10. 1674.

SIR,

I Have received yours dated *Auguſt* the 28th. and if your Lady pleaſeth with Confidence to retaine me in her Cauſe, as you ſay ſhe will, ſhe may reſt moſt ſecure to be both Faithfully and Uncorruptibly ſerved, according to the old Engliſh Oath of an Attorney, without Fear, Favour, or Affection; from hence therefore I reſolve not to ſtir, upon no other bodies Call nor Fees, untill I have her ſpecial Command to come up to *Weſtminſter*, and full Inſtructions how to move when I am there, which muſt be your part to ſee done and prepared in the mean time, becauſe I would think a little thereupon between this and then, ſince the impertineneſt of officiouſneſſes is to pretend to be wiſer in other folks concerns than they are themſelves; yet give leave to ſay that I doubt very much words will not be kept with her by thoſe whom chiefly ſhe doth depend on, not to ſhrink in the day of Battle, when bullets begin to fly thick and near; and though my Brother Attorney of *Dorcheſt.* and his whole packed jury ſaving two of the number, who are my Couſin Germains originally, are Cowards, let not that comfort you at all, for if you remember after *Clinias* was driven into the water, he fought like a lyon; beſides, the ills which they have already done, to ſpeak the plain truth, cannot be ſafe but by attempting greater, wherein the Ladies Neece if good care be not early taken will have a conſiderable portion.

I would you ſaw as I doe becauſe of my Ladies former diſpleaſure towards me, which makes them lie at ſomething an opener Garde with me in this particular then they doe perhaps with others of the ſame profeſſion, what poſtings, and meetings there are up and down the Country about this matter, to the exaltation of the Neece, *uſq; ad Cœlum*, and to the crying down of the Aunt, nay and to ſuch an inſolence is the little Atturny grown, that when applications are made unto him, from the Center of all theſe lines, as you well obſerve, and the man for whoſe ſake I firſt fell into diſgrace with the Lady to admit them into his Counſels and intereſts, the urchin ſtill anſwers *quod cùm impiis non vult Converſatio*, and that he intends to doe his work not by ſuch aſſiſtances, *ſed ſolum expondere cauſæ*; wherefore if any Champarty maſculine or feminine of that kind could be proved in open Court it were not amiſs, but when the thing comes

comes to the touch, you'l ſee that it will not abide the tryall nor bear water.

The giving of mony then is all I can apprehend to be dangerous in this Caſe, with a Condition to exclude the Aunt out of the entaile, becauſe upon thoſe terms no *ſeparate proviſo* can ſerve her turn, onely conduce towards the invalidating the teſtimony of her witneſſes and Friends.

I deſire to hear onely that you have gotten this note ſafe into your hands, ſhew it unto my Lady at ſeaſonable opportunities, and ever eſteem me without welt or guard

Your faithfulleſt Friend

and Servant,

*William Rice.*

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*October* 20. 1674.

I Have Received yours dated the 13th. of this month, theſe come to you by a ſecure hand, elſe I would not venture to write out of paraboles.

The new Parliament is that which the Dorſetſhire Attorney, and all his Clients have now in chace, Conſultations are on foot how to frame addreſſes for it, within the compaſs of the Law.

Tell our Lady from me that ſhe hath but one point ſeriouſly to intend, which is to make herſelf, and not be denyed the Commiſſion, mediatrix of the Peace, which *France* as well as *Spain* are more inclined towards than ever, becauſe of the unrulineſs of the German Confederates, for ſhould either the Duke of *Buckingham*, or my Lord of *Arlington* get that Employment from her, nay any one beſides, there is an end of her ſtorie: By reaſon if the new Parliament cannot be obtained, to have their own Creatures truſted with this mediation, is the onely hope they have left; I mean the wife of *Shaftsbury*: could they and their adherents be authours of the general peace upon the nick of this Conjuncture, I am afraid *France* will not ſtick ſo cloſe to the Lady, as perchance ſhe believeth they would, ſince to my knowledg they are actually in treatie at preſent with thoſe two perſons whom I laſt named to this very purpoſe, therefore you ſee in this cauſe I do not juggle nor regard either peculiar

liar Intereſts, or friendſhip: for the Duke of *Buckingham* till he be at the brink of death, will never be right to our Cauſe more, both becauſe he doth think the Lady underhand hath uſed him hardly in the matter of his late perſecutions, as alſo, that moſt of our perſuaſion were in the contrivance of the petition which was delivered in Parliament againſt my Lady of *Shrewsbury* and him, though perhaps both equally miſtaken, however, I muſt be ſincere always with you, for ſo it is, and if my Lord of *Arlington* can obtain the Commiſſion aforeſaid, then a rope for the Pope, and long live the houſe of *Naſſaw*, you ſee clearly I truſt you, therefore I am ſure you will not ſuffer the integrity of a poor Country Cloathier to be abuſed.

I tell you again, if they can get the acting of the Peace into their hands, in one word, they will be able to doe their work, *per-actum agere*, and much better hilted than it was the laſt time, for ſo will they be Maſters of the Caſe of all Subſidies both abroad and at home, which you cannot be ignorant ſomewhere is a potent argument; but to thoſe who look aſquint upon things and men that are above their reach, theſe I eaſily believe will be held Chimerical Speculations.

Should the matter be ordered ſo as to make the new Parliament the Cauſe of the *Peace*, or the Peace the means of the new Parliament, our Lady may when ſhe pleaſeth retire to hunt at her hired houſe in *Suffolk*.

All that I deſire from you is to let me know, as ſoon as you can, whether or no this Parliament ſhall meet and ſit again the 13th. of *April*, for the reſt I can better inform you of, than you me, in relation to Country tranſactions.

To conclude, nothing can ſave us but reſolution, and throwing off the maſque, ſince none but children can be ſo weak as to imagine they are not known through a vizzard, as much as without one on their Faces. My notes are ready, and tranſcribing to be ſent you, let the Lady conſider them, and diſpoſe thereof as ſhe thinks good; for 'tis a maxime I ſhall never quit, not to pretend to be wiſer in other folks matters than they are themſelves. I beſeech you burn theſe after our Lady hath ſeen them, I ſhall be very impatient till I am ſure they are ſafe come to your hands, farewell.

When I ſay Reſolution, do not think I expect Impoſſibilities, *Deus non coget ad impoſſibilia*, nor am Ignorant how difficult it will be to get that herb out of a Garden, where nothing but irreſolution groweth.

*Novemb.*

*November* 20. 1674.

THese come to you by a very safe hand, therefore be not afraid to read them, this was very unseasonable hunting weather, as I writ before, unless there be something at the bottome of that resolution which we do not see, for never think that these Carneval Plenipotentiaries goe into *Holland* onely to make merry with their wives kindred there, and less that if my Lord *Latimer* goeth along with them, that he can either make or mar any sport, besides the treatie betwixt *France* and the *Suedes* and *Robans* Conspiracy, whether true or false will have influences here that must of necessity make the little *Dorsetshire* Attorny and his Associates look seriously about them in order to their own preservation, you say that neither his R. H. My Lord Treasurer, nor the Duke of *Lauderdale* knew any thing of this Mysterious Journey, and then you may be sure it cannot be good, but thus much I can write upon certain knowledg, that their Emissaries do go up and down from Country to Country, to settle the minds of the people, that the Parliament will infallibly sit, and meet in *April* again, and for an earnest token thereof do give them instance by the suddain renewing of the order for prohibiting of Papists from coming to Court, for out of whose quiver that came I need not tell you, only this I can tell you, that since he is Canonized not only for the best Statesman, but also for the best Protestant that ever was in *England* since my Lord of *Clarendon*'s departure, you say we shall see something about the latter end of the Term, I pray God heartily that the Lady do not too often take nothing for something, yet am not ignorant of the difficulties she laboureth under neither, by my former Letters which I wrote unto you touching the matter of the Peace, I still intimated that if the Commission to treat it were taken out of her hands there was an end of the story, for if this Parliament doth ever meet again, good night, but standers by cannot understand the course of the Cards so well as those that play them, therefore will I say no more of this particuler, though I be strongly perswaded within my self, that the Prorogation was resolved only to try to make the better bargain for the ruin of us all, which if it can be effected, remember I tell you let those whom she most dependeth upon without naming any body, promise never so deeply to the contrary, she will be de-

 serted

ſerted and left alone, *ſicut paſſer ſolitarius in tecto*, for this Convention of Biſhops which you mention, is only pararevias thereunto, ſince, to ſay the truth, that Church hath no other expedient left how to ſubſiſt, theſe few ſcribled lines are directed to no other eyes but your own, pray write largely unto me once for all by this bearers return who is ſecure and truſty, and believe that in the whole world you have not a faithfuller Servant than

*William Rice.*

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*Shew this Note to the Lady.*

IT is my duty the Lady ſhould know all things which come to me whatever they are, conſiderable or not, to judge, and make what uſe of them ſhe thinks beſt.

Here was with me laſt night one of the Caball and a near Relation, who ſaith he can propoſe the greateſt matters unto her imaginable in order to her preſervation and no leſs, in caſe the Parliament doth meet but with this reſtriction to me, that profered ſervice ſtinks, it is a vain time, and the preſent ſtate of affairs makes moſt men more preſumptious and vain than otherwiſe they would perhaps be.

His Propoſals conſiſt but of two Parts, the one to obtain a *proviſo* of Exemption for her in the grand intended Bill againſt Popery, and the other by the ſame *proviſo* as he ſaith he can demonſtratively ſhew that he is able to make good, that all her former offices, Bailywicks and places ſhall be re-inveſted in her again.

The Lady ſeemed to approve of taking in all perſons, I will be caution that this man ſhall not break his word, but not ſuretiſhip that he may not reckon without his hoſte, he will not come unleſs ſent for, all which I ſubmit to the Lady's better judgment, having Commiſſion to bring him thither whenever ſhe pleaſes to Command his attendance

*William Rice.*

*Saturday Morning.*

Ob

*Oh formoſe Puer nimium ne crede dolori.*

TO anſwer yours then of the 15th. *March* both Latin and Engliſh, I preſume that e'er this you may have ſeen the *Dorſetſhire* Attornys circular letter to his Companions, becauſe every Coffee-houſe has Copies of it, wherein he doth not only mention, a new Tryal, but alſo a new Jury, or elſe reſolveth flatly not to come up to the Aſſiſe.

But an intimate friend of his told me no longer agon than yeſterday, that he is ſure nothing can be more remote from his heart, than a new Jury, and that he doth give out this only, *Captare Benevolentiam* with the Grand jury men, and *John Bothoaks* their Solicitour, becauſe ſayeth the craftie Pettifogger unto them, I move thus only for your ſakes, ſince whatever I deſire, the Judg will never grant, and ſo have dextrouſly avoyded a new Jury by ſeeming to demand one, which conſidering the humour of the mans dealing is not totally improbable.

Pray acquaint the Lady with this perticular, becauſe it is moſt true and worth her knowing.

I am very glad to hear it again confirmed by you, that the Gardeners brother proveth a good man, he ſaith right, the two Trees muſt down, which now there is no more diſpute cannot ſtand without the undermining of the Ladies houſe, but all the craft will be how to get them removed, for which the Gardiners Brothers Tools I doubt are not ſharp enough, beſides thoſe who have promiſed to work with him, when the Spade cometh to the Rock 'tis to be feared may digg Counter, for at preſent 'tis a tough piece of labour, and will continue ſo untill the Ladies Siſter doth feel the inconvenience of their ſtanding there as well as ſhe herſelf has felt it already.

That the Lady has gotten a Plenipotentiary of her own chuſing is good, if he doth not find that he muſt digg againſt the Rock too, for then as well as I love the man, he is not to learn this leſſon of the Ladies, of any Church whatſoever, *durum erit tibi contrà ſtimulum calcitare*, my friend, I begin to hope may do well by ſomething I have heard of him, whereof more by the next return.

Send me word I entreat you what Bills are upon the Stocks, and whether there be one in hand to exclude the Catholick Lords from

from Sitting and Voting in the Houſe of Peers, that I may prepare accordingly.

Since the Prieſts and Monks are all gon, when they are beyond Seas again, more Maſters of their Conceptions than they were here, I pray God that they may write no fooliſh Books to inflame the reckoning, which by the way they are like enough to doe, unleſs warned to the contrary by the Lady, whoſe good they ought to tender more then the pleaſing of their fancies, ſince the penalty of their follies, otherwiſe will certainly light upon her in the concluſion of things.

Since the Lady will go to a new triall, intend, proceed, proſper and reign, the Gardener will not be long from you to accompliſh his word; but if the event doth not prove otherwiſe than is expected I am much couſened, for either *John Botbooks* muſt needs be ſtark mad, or he is ſure of having already packed the Cards enough to doe his feat with the Jury before he cometh to ſit down at *primaviſti* with the Lady, in fine, though I knew *Caſſandra* was an Aſſe for Prophecying always where ſhe was never believed, yet I cannot leave this kind of ſtyle for my heart.

Let your new Inſtruments be never ſo acceptable to the Jury for a while, that is to ſay, till the cheat be enacted, they will not have been long in the Ladies hands, but they will become like the others heretofore, whom they ſo much diſtaſted, ſince their buſineſs is not to accept of her ſecurity upon a change of officers, but right or wrong to reject it, whatever ſhe offers, or whomever ſhe imployeth.

Another ſcruple too I have, which is, whether her friend over the dyke will be true to her or no, for if ſo, as you well obſerve Orange Trees will not thrive in our ſoil, farewell till I ſee you.

*March* 24th. 167½.

## Coleman *to Monſieur* Le Cheſe, 29th Sept. 75.

SInce Father *St. Germain* has been ſo kind to me as to recommend me to your Reverence, ſo advantageouſly as to Encourage you to accept of my Correſpondence, I will own to him that he has done me a Favour without conſulting me, greater than I could have been capable of, if he had advis'd with me; becauſe I ſhould not then have had the Confidence to have permitted him to ask it in my behalf: And I am ſo ſenſible of the Honour you are pleas'd to do me, that though I cannot deſerve it, yet at leaſt, to ſhow the ſence I have of it, I will deal as freely and openly with you at this firſt time, as if I had had the Honour of your acquaintance all my life; and ſhall make no Apology for ſo doing, but only tell you, that I know your Character perfectly well, though I am not ſo happy as to know your Perſon; and that I have an Opportunity of putting this Letter into the hands of Father *St. Germain*'s Nephew (for whoſe Integrity and Prudence he has undertaken) without any ſort of hazard. *Lett. pro Reg.*

In order then, Sir, to the plainneſs which I profeſs, I will tell you what has formerly paſs'd between your Reverend Predeceſſor Father *Ferrier* and my ſelf, about Three years ago, when the King my Maſter ſent a Troop of his Horſe Guards into his moſt Chriſtian Majeſtie's Service, under the Command of my Lord *Duras*, he ſent with it an Officer call'd Sir *William Throckmorton*, with whom I had a particular intimacy, and who had then very newly embrac'd the Catholick Religion; to him did I conſtantly write, and by him addreſs my ſelf to Father *Ferrier*; The firſt thing of great Importance which I preſum'd to offer to him (not to trouble you with leſſer Matters, or what paſs'd here before and immediately after the fatal Revocation of the King's Declaration for Liberty of Conſcience, to which we owe all our late Miſeries and Hazards) was in *July*, *Auguſt* and *September* 73. when I conſtantly inculcated the great danger Catholick Religion, and his moſt Chriſtian Majeſtie's Intereſt would be in at our next Seſſions of Parliament, which was then to be in *October* following; at which, I plainly foreſaw that the King my Maſter would be forc'd to ſomething in prejudice of his Alliance with *France*, which I ſaw ſo evidently and particularly that we ſhould make Peace with *Holland*, that I urg'd all the Arguments I could (which to me were Demonſtrations) to convince your Court of that miſchief, and preſs'd what I could to perſuade his Chriſtian Majeſty to uſe his utmoſt force to prevent that Seſſions of our Parliament; and propos'd Expedients how to do it: but I was anſwer'd ſo often and ſo poſitively that his Chriſtian Majeſty was ſo well aſſur'd by his Ambaſ. here, our Ambaſ. there, the Lord *Arlington*, and even the King himſelf, that he had no ſuch apprehenſion at all, but was fully ſatisfied of the contrary, and look'd upon what I offer'd as a very Zealous miſtake, that I was forc'd to give over arguing, though not believing, as I did; but confidently appeal'd to time and ſucceſs, to prove who took their meaſures righteſt. When it hapned that what I foreſaw came to paſs, the Good Father was a little ſurpriz'd to ſee all the Great Men miſtaken, and a little one in the right, and was pleas'd by Sir *W. Throckmorton* to deſire the continuance of my Correſpondence, which I was mighty willing to comply with, knowing the Intereſts of our King, and in a more particular manner of my more immediate Maſter the Duke, and his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to be ſo inſeparably united, that it was impoſſible to divide them without deſtroying them all. Upon this I ſhew that our Parliament in the Circumſtances it was in, manag'd by the timerous Counſels of our Miniſters, who then govern'd,

could never be uſeful either to *England*, *France*, or Catholick Religion; but that we ſhould as certainly be forc'd from our Neutrality at their next Meeting, as we had been from our active Alliance with *France* the laſt; that a Peace in the Circumſtances we were in was much more to be deſir'd than the continuance of the War, and that the Diſſolution of our Parliament would certainly procure a Peace; for that the Confederates did more depend upon the Power they had in our Parliament, than upon any thing elſe in the World, and were more encourag'd from thence to continue the War; ſo that if that were Diſſolv'd, their meaſures would be all broken, and they conſequently in a manner neceſſitated to a Peace.

The Good Father, minding this Diſcourſe ſomewhat more than the Court of *France* thought fit to do my former, urg'd it ſo home to the King, that his M. was pleas'd to give him order to ſignifie to his R. H. my Maſter, that his Ma. was fully ſatisfied of his R. H's good Intentions towards him, and that he eſteem'd both their Intereſts as but one and the ſame; That my Lord *Arlington* and the Parliament were both to be look'd upon as very unuſeful to their Intereſts, and that if his R. H. would endeavour to Diſſolve this Parliament, his Ma. would aſſiſt him with his Power and Purſe to have ſuch a New one as ſhould be for their purpoſe: This and a great many more Expreſſions of Kindneſs and Confidence Father *Ferrier* was pleas'd to communicate to Sir *W. T.* and commanded him to ſend them to his R. H. and withal to beg his R. H. to propoſe to his moſt Chriſtian M. what he thought neceſſary for his own concern, and the advantage of Religion, and his M. would certainly do all he could to advance both or either of them; this Sir *W. T.* ſent to me by an Expreſs who left *Paris* on the 2*d* of *June* 1674. *S. N.* I no ſooner had it, but I communicated it to his R. H. to which his R. H. commanded me to anſwer as I did on the 29*th* of the ſame Month.

That his R. H. was very ſenſible of his moſt Chriſtian M's Friendſhip, and that he would labour to cultivate it with all the good Offices he was capable of doing for his Ma. That he was fully convinc'd that their Intereſts were both one. That my Lord *Arlington* and the Parliament were not only unuſeful, but very dangerous both to *England* and *France*; that therefore it was neceſſary that they ſhould do all they could to Diſſolve it; and, That his R. H's opinion was, that if his moſt Chriſtian M. would write his Thoughts freely to the King of *England* upon this Subject, and make the ſame offer to his M. of his Purſe to Diſſolve this, which he had made to his R. H. to call another, he did believe it very poſſible for him to ſucceed, with the aſſiſtance we ſhould be able to give him here, and that if this Parliament were Diſſolv'd, there would be no great difficulty of getting a new One which would be more uſeful, the Conſtitution of our Parliaments being ſuch, that a new One can never hurt the Crown, nor an old One do it good.

His R. H. being pleas'd to own theſe Propoſitions, which were but only General; I thought it reaſonable to be more particular, and come cloſer to the Point.

1. *That if we hapned to agree*, we might go the faſter about the work, and come to ſome Iſſue before the time were too much ſpent: I laid this for my Maxim, *The Diſſolution of our Parliament will certainly procure a Peace*; which Propoſition was granted by every body I convers'd withal, even by Monſieur *Rouvigny* himſelf, with whom I took liberty of diſcourſing ſo far; but durſt not ſay any thing of the Intelligence I had with Father *Ferrier*.

Next,

Next, *That a Sum of Money certain, would certainly procure a Diſſolution*: This ſome doubted, but I am ſure I never did, for I knew perfectly well that the King had frequent Diſputes with himſelf at that time, whether he ſhould diſſolve or continue them, and he ſeveral times declar'd, that the Arguments were ſo ſtrong on both ſides, that he could not tell to which to incline; but was carried at laſt to the continuance of them by this one Argument; If I try them once more they may poſſibly give me Money, if they do, I have gain'd my Point; if they do not, I can diſſolve them then, and be where I am now, ſo that I have a poſſibility at leaſt of getting Money for their continuance, againſt nothing of the other ſide. But if we could have turn'd this Argument, and ſaid, Sir, Their Diſſolution will certainly procure you Money, when you have only a bare poſſibility of getting any by their continuance, and have ſhown how far that bare poſſibility was from being a Foundation to build any reaſonable hope upon, which I am ſure His Majeſty was ſenſible *enough* of; and how much 300000 *l.* Sterling certain (which was the Sum we propoſed) was better than a bare poſſibility (without any reaſon to hope that that would ever be compaſs'd) of having half ſo much more (which was the moſt he deſign'd to ask) upon ſome vile diſhonourable terms, and a 1000 other hazards which we had great reaſon to be afraid of; If I ſay we had had Power to have argued thus, I am moſt confidently aſſur'd we could have compaſs'd it; for Logick in our Court built upon Money, has more powerful Charms than any other ſort of reaſoning: But to ſecure his moſt Chriſtian M. from any hazard as to this point, I propos'd that his M. ſhould offer that Sum upon that Condition, and if that Condition were not perform'd, the Money ſhould ne'r be due; if it were, and that a Peace would certainly follow thereupon (which no body doubted) his Majeſty would gain his ends, and ſave all the vaſt Expences of the next Campaign, by which he could not hope to better his Condition, or to put himſelf into more advantageous Circumſtances of Treating than he was then in, but might very probably be in a much worſe, conſidering the mighty Oppoſitions he was like to meet with, and the uncertain Chances of War; but admitting that His Majeſty could Maintain himſelf by his great Strength and Conduct in as good a Condition to Treat the next year as he was then in, which was as much as could then reaſonably be hop'd for, he ſhould have ſav'd by this Propoſal, as much as all the Men he muſt needs loſe, and all the Charges he ſhould be at in a year could be valued to amount to more than 300000 *l.* Sterling; & ſo much more, in caſe his Condition ſhould decay, as it ſhould be worſe than it was when this was made: *and the Condition of H. R. H. and of Cath. Religion here, which depends very much upon the ſucceſs of his M. C. M.* deliver'd from a great many frights and real hazards. Father *Ferrier* ſeem'd to be very ſenſible of the benefit which all Parties would gain by this Propoſal; but yet it was unfortunately delay'd by the unhappy and tedious Sickneſs which kept him ſo long from the King in *Franche Comte*, and made him ſo unable to wait upon his Ma. after he did return to *Paris*; but ſo ſoon as he could compaſs it, he was pleas'd to acquaint his Ma. with it, and did write to the Duke himſelf, and did me the honour to write alſo to me on the 15*th* of *September* 74. and ſent his Letters by Sir *Will. Throckmorton*, who came Expreſs upon that Errand. In theſe Letters he gave his R. H. freſh aſſurances of his M. C. M's. friendſhip, and of his Zeal and readineſs to comply with every thing his R. H had, or ſhould think fit to propoſe in favour of Religion, or the Buſineſs of the Money, and that he had Commanded Monſieur *Rouvigny* as to the latter, to Treat and deal with his R. H. and to receive and obſerve his Orders and Directions, but deſir'd that he might

might not be at all concern'd as to the former; but that his R. H. would cauſe what Propoſitions he ſhould think fit to be made about Religion, to be offer'd either to Father *Ferrier*, or Monſieur *Pompone*. Theſe Letters came to us about the middle of our *September*, and his R. H. expected daily when Monſieur *Rouvigny* ſhould ſpeak to him about the ſubject of that Letter, but he took no notice at all of any thing till the 29*th* of *September*, the Evening before the King and Duke went to *New-Market* for a Fortnight, and then only ſaid, That he had Command from his Maſter to give his R. H. the moſt firm aſſurances imaginable of his Friendſhip, or ſomething to that purpoſe, making his R. H. a general Compliment, but made no mention of any particular Orders relating to the Subject of Fa. *Ferrier*'s Letter: The Duke wondring at this proceeding, and being oblig'd to ſtay good part of *October* at *New-Market*, and ſoon after his coming back, hearing of the Death of Fa. *Ferrier*, he gave over all farther proſecuting of the former Project.

But I believ'd I ſaw Monſieur *de Rouvigny*'s Policy all along, who was willing to ſave his Maſter's Money, upon an aſſurance that we would do all we could to ſtave off the Parliament for our own ſakes, that we would ſtruggle as hard without Money as with it, *and we having by this time upon our own Intereſts prevail'd to* get the Parliament Prorogu'd till the 13*th* of *April*, he thought that Prorogation, being to a Day ſo high in the Spring, would put the Confederates ſo much beyond their meaſures, as that it might procure a Peace, and be as uſeful to *France* as a Diſſolution. Upon theſe reaſons, which I ſuppos'd he went upon, I had ſeveral diſcourſes with him, and did open my ſelf to him ſo far, as to ſay, That I could wiſh his Maſter would give us leave to offer 300000 *l.* to our Maſter for the Diſſolution of the Parliament, and ſhew him that a Peace would moſt certainly follow a Diſſolution, which he agreed with me in; and that we deſir'd not the Money from his Maſter to excite our wills, or to make us more induſtrious to uſe our utmoſt powers to procure a Diſſolution, but to ſtrengthen our Power and Credit with the King, and to render us more capable to ſucceed with his Ma. as moſt certainly we ſhould have done, had we been fortified with ſuch an Argument. To this purpoſe I preſs'd Monſieur *Pompone* frequently by Sir *W. Throck.* who return'd from hence again into *France* on the 10*th* of *Nov.* the Day our Parliament ſhould have ſat, but was Prorogu'd, Monſieur *Pompone*, as I was inform'd by Sir *Will.* did ſeem to approve the thing; but yet had two Objections againſt it: Firſt, That the Sum we propos'd was great, and could very ill be ſpar'd by his Maſter in the Circumſtances he was in. To which we anſwer'd, That if by his expending this Sum he could procure a Diſſolution of our Parliament, and thereby a Peace, which every body agreed would neceſſarily follow, his M. C. M. would ſave 5 or 10 times a greater Sum, and ſo be a good Husband by his Expence; and if we did not procure a Diſſolution, he ſhould not be at that Expence at all; for that we deſir'd him only to Promiſe upon that Condition, which we were content to be oblig'd to perform firſt. The ſecond Objection was, That the Duke did not move it, nor appear in it himſelf: To that we anſwer'd, That he did not indeed to Monſieur *Pompone*, becauſe he had found ſo ill an effect of the Negotiation with Father *Ferrier* when it came into Monſieur *Rouvigny*'s hands; but he had concerned himſelf in it to Fa. *Ferrier*; yet I continued to proſecute and preſs the Diſſolution of the Parliament, deteſting all Prorogations, as only ſo much loſs of time, and a means of ſtrengthning all thoſe who depended upon it in oppoſition to the Crown, the Intereſt of *France* and Cath. Religion, in the Opinion they had taken that our King durſt not part with this Parliament, apprehending another would be much worſe. 2. That he could not live long without a Parliament, there-

fore they muſt ſuddenly meet; and the longer he kept them off, the greater his Neceſſities would grow, and conſequently their Power to compel him to do what they liſted would encreaſe accordingly; and therefore if they could but maintain themſelves a while, their Day would certainly come in a ſhort time, in which they ſhould be able to work their wills; Such Diſcourſes as theſe kept the Confederates and our Malecontents in heart, and made them weather on the War in ſpite of all our Prorogations; and therefore I preſs'd, as I have ſaid, a Diſſolution, until *February* laſt; when our Circumſtances were ſo totally chang'd, that we were forc'd to change our Counſels too, and be as much for the Parliaments ſitting, as we were before againſt it. Our change was thus, Before that time, the Lord *Arlington* was the only Miniſter in Credit, who thought himſelf out of all Danger of the Parliament, he having been accus'd before them and juſtified, and therefore was zealouſly for their Sitting; and to increaſe his Reputation with them, and to become a perfect Favourite, he ſet himſelf all he could to perſecute Cath. Religion, and to oppoſe the *French*; to ſhew his Zeal againſt the firſt, he reviv'd ſome old Dormant Orders for Prohibiting Ro. Cath. to appear before the King, and put them into Execution at his firſt coming into his Office of Lord Chamberlain; and to make ſure work againſt the ſecond as he thought; prevail'd with the King to give him and the Earl of *Oſſery*, who Married two Siſters of *Men, Heer Dyke*, leave to go over into *Holland* with the ſaid *Heeren*, to make a Viſit, as they pretended, to their Relations; but indeed and in truth to propoſe the Lady *Mary*, eldeſt Daughter to his R. H. as a Match for the P. of *Orange*, not only without the conſent, but againſt the good liking of his R. H. inſomuch that the Lord *Arlington*'s Creatures were forc'd to excuſe him with a diſtinction, that the ſaid Lady was not to be look'd upon as the Duke's Daughter, by as the Kings, and a Child of the State, and ſo the Duke's conſent not to be much conſider'd in the diſpoſal of her, but the intereſt only of State; but this he intended to render himſelf the Darling of the Parliament and Proteſtants, who would look upon themſelves as ſecur'd in their Religion by ſuch an Alliance, and deſign'd farther by that means to draw us into cloſe Conjunction with *Holland* and the Enemies of *France*.

The Lord *Arlington* ſet forth upon this Errand on the 10*th* of *November* 74. and return'd not till the 6*th* of *January* following; during his abſence, the Lord Treaſurer, the Lord Keeper, and Duke of *Lauderdale*, who were the only Miniſters in any conſiderable Credit with the King, and who all pretended to be intirely united to the Duke, declaim'd loudly and with great violence againſt the ſaid Lord, and his Actions in *Holland*, and did hope in his abſence to have totally ſupplanted him, and rooted him out of the King's Favour, and after that they thought they might eaſily enough have dealt with the Parliament; but none of them had courage enough to ſpeak againſt the Parliament till they could get rid of him, for fear they ſhould not ſucceed; but that the Parliament would ſit in ſpite of them, and come to hear that they had us'd their endeavours againſt it; which would have been ſo unpardonable a Crime with our Omnipotent Parliament, that no Power would have been able to have ſav'd them from Puniſhment; but they finding at his return that they could not prevail againſt him by ſuch Means and Arts as they had then tryed, reſolv'd upon new Counſels, which were to out-run him in his own courſe, which accordingly they undertook, and became as fierce Apoſtles and as Zealous for Proteſtant Religion, againſt Popery, as ever my Lord *Arlington* was before them, and in purſuance thereof, perſuaded the King to iſſue out thoſe ſevere Orders and Proclamations againſt Catholicks, which came out in *Febr.* laſt; by which they did as much as in them lay to Extirpate all Catholicks and Catholick Religion out of the Kingdom; which Counſels were in my poor Opinion ſo deteſtable, being levell'd, as

they muſt needs be, ſo directly againſt the Duke, by People which he had advanc'd, and who had profeſs'd ſo much Duty and Service to him that we were put upon new thoughts how to ſave his R. H. now from the deceits and ſnares of them upon whom we formerly depended; we ſaw well enough that their deſign was to make themſelves as grateful as they could to the Parliament, if it muſt ſit, they thinking nothing to be ſo acceptable to them as the Perſecuting of Popery; but yet they were ſo obnoxious to the Parliament's Diſpleaſure in general, that they would have been very glad of any Expedient to have kept it off, though they durſt not engage againſt it openly themſelves; but thought this Device of theirs might ſerve for that purpoſe, hoping that the Duke would be ſo alarm'd at this proceeding, and by his being left by every body, that he would be much more afraid of the Parliament than ever, and would uſe his utmoſt power to prevent its ſitting, which they doubted not but he would endeavour, and they were ready enough to work underhand with him for their own ſakes not his, in order thereunto, but durſt not appear openly; to encourage the Duke the more to endeavour to Diſſolve the Parliament, their Creatures us'd to ſay up and down, That this rigorous proceeding againſt Cath. was in favour of the Duke, and to make the Diſſolution of the Parliament more eaſie, which they knew he coveted, by obviating one great Objection which was commonly made againſt it; which was, That if the Parliament ſhould be Diſſolv'd, it would be ſaid that it was done in favour of Popery, which clamour they had prevented by the ſeverity which they had ſhown againſt it beforehand.

As ſoon as we ſaw theſe Tricks put upon us, we plainly ſaw what Men we had to deal with, and what we had to truſt to if we were wholly at their mercy, but yet durſt not ſeem ſo diſſatisfied as we really were, but rather magnified the Contrivance as a Device of great Cunning and Skill; all this we did purely to hold them on in a belief, that we would endeavour to Diſſolve the Parliament, that they might rely upon his R. H. for that, which we knew they long'd for, and were afraid they might do ſome other way if they diſcover'd that we were reſolv'd we would not: At length when we ſaw the Seſſions ſecur'd, we declar'd we were for the Parliaments meeting, as indeed we were from the moment we ſaw our ſelves us'd by all the King's Miniſters at ſuch a rate, that we had reaſon to believe they would Sacrifice *France*, Religion, and his R. H. too to their own Intereſt if occaſion ſerv'd, and that they were led to believe, that that was the only way they had to ſave themſelves at that time: for we ſaw no expedient fit to ſtop them in their career of Perſecution, and thoſe other deſtructive Counſels but the Parliament, which had ſet it ſelf a long time to diſlike every thing the Miniſters had done, and had appear'd violently againſt Popery, whilſt the Court ſeem'd to favour it, and therefore we were confident that the Miniſters having turn'd their faces, the Parliament would do ſo too, and ſtill be againſt them, and be as little for Perſecution then as they had been for Popery before; this I undertook to manage for the Duke and the King of *France*'s Intereſt, and aſſur'd Monſieur *Rouvigny* (which I am ſure he will teſtifie if occaſion ſerves) that that Seſſions ſhould do neither of them any hurt; for that I was ſure I had Power enough to prevent miſchief, though I durſt not anſwer for any good they ſhould do, becauſe I had but very few Aſſiſtants to carry on the work, and wanted thoſe helps which others had of making Friends: The *Dutch* and *Spaniards* ſpared no pains, nor expence of Money, to animate as many as they could againſt *France*; our Lord Treaſurer, Lord Keeper, all the Biſhops, and ſuch as call themſelves old Cavaliers, who were all then as one man, were not leſs induſtrious againſt Popery, and had the Purſe at their Girdle too, which is an excellent Inſtrument to gain Friends with; and all united againſt the Duke as Patron both of *France* and Cath. Religion.

To

To deal with all this force, we had no Money but what came from a few private hands, and thoſe ſo mean ones too, that I dare venture to ſay, that I ſpent more my particular ſelf out of my own Fortune, and upon my ſingle Credit, than all the whole body of Catholicks in *England* beſides, which was ſo inconſiderable in Compariſon of what our Adverſaries could command, and we verily believe did beſtow in making their Party, that it is not worth mentioning. Yet notwithſtanding all this, we ſaw that by the help of the Non-Conformiſts, (as *Presbyterians*, *Independents*, and other Sects, who were as much afraid of Perſecution as our ſelves) and of the Enemies of the Miniſters, and particularly of the Treaſurer (who by that time had ſupplanted the Earl of *Arlington*, and was grown ſole Menager of all Affairs himſelf) we ſhould be able to prevent what they deſign'd againſt us, and ſo render the Seſſions ineffectual to their ends, though we might not be able to compaſs our own; which were to make ſome briſk ſtep in favour of his R. H. to ſhow the King that his Ma's Affairs in Parliament were not obſtructed by reaſon of any averſion they had to his R. H's Perſon, or apprehenſion they had of him or his Religion; but from Faction and Ambition in ſome, and from a real Diſſatisfaction in others, that we have not had ſuch fruits and effects of thoſe great Sums of Money which have formerly been given, as they expected: If we could have made then but one ſuch ſtep, the King would certainly have reſtor'd his R. H. to all his Commiſſions, upon which he would have been much greater than ever yet he was in his whole life, or could probably ever have been by any other courſe in the world than what he had taken of becoming Catholick, *&c.* And we were ſo very near gaining this Point, that I did humbly beg his R. H. to give me leave to put the Parliament upon making an Addreſs to the King, that His Ma. would be pleas'd to put the Fleet into the hands of H. R. H. as the only Perſon likely to give a good account of ſo important a Charge as that was to the Kingdom; and ſhew his R. H. ſuch reaſons to perſuade him that we could carry it. That he agreed with me, in it that he believ'd we could; yet others telling him how great a dammage it would be to him if he ſhould miſs in ſuch an undertaking (which for my part I could not then ſee nor do as yet) he was prevail'd upon not to venture, though he was perſuaded he could carry it. I did communicate this deſign of mine to Monſieur *Rouvigny*, who agreed with me that it would be the greateſt advantage to his Maſter imaginable, to have the Duke's Power and Credit ſo advanc'd as this would certainly do it if we could compaſs it, I ſhew'd him all the difficulties we were like to meet with, and what helps we ſhould have, but that we ſhould want one very material one, *Money*, to carry on the work as we ought; and therefore I do confeſs I did ſhamefully beg his Maſter's help, and would willingly have been content to have been in everlaſting Diſgrace with all the world, if I had not with the aſſiſtance of 26000 *l.* Sterling from him (which perhaps is not the Tenth part of what was ſpent on t'other ſide) made it evident to the Duke that he could not have miſs'd it: Monſieur *Rouvigny* us'd to tell me, That if he could be ſure of ſucceeding in that deſign his Maſter would give a very much larger Sum; but that he was not in a condition to throw away Money upon uncertainties; I anſwer'd, that nothing of this Nature can be ſo infallibly ſure as not to be ſubject to ſome poſſibility of failing; but that I durſt venture to undertake to make it evident, that there was as great an aſſurance of ſucceeding in it, as any Husbandman can have of a Crop in Harveſt, who ſows his Ground in its Seaſon; and yet it would be accounted a very Imprudent piece of warineſs in any body to ſcruple the venturing ſo much Seed in its proper time; becauſe it is poſſible it may be totally loſt, and no benefit found of it in Harveſt. He that minds the Winds and the Rains at that rate, ſhall neither ſow nor reap.

I take our caſe to be much the ſame now, as it was the laſt Seſſions, if we can advance the Duke's Intereſt one ſtep forward, we ſhall put him out of the reach of all Chances for ever; for he makes ſuch a Figure already, that cautious Men do not care to act againſt him, or always without him; becauſe they do not ſee that he is much out-power'd by his Enemies, yet is he not at ſuch a pitch as to be quite out of Danger, or free from Oppoſition; but if he could gain any conſiderable new Addition of Power, all would come over to him as the only ſteddy Center of our Government, and no body would contend with him farther; then would Catholicks be at eaſe, and his M. C. M's Intereſt ſecur'd with us in *England*, beyond all Apprehenſions whatſoever.

In order to this, we have two great Deſigns to attempt the next Seſſions: 1. That which we were about before, *viz.* To put the Parliament upon making it their humble Requeſt to the King, That the Fleet may be put into his R. H's Care. And, 2. To get an Act for General Liberty of Conſcience. If we carry theſe two, or either of them, we ſhall in effect do what we liſt afterwards; and truly we think we do not undertake theſe great Points very unreaſonably, but that we have good Cards for our Game; not but that we expect great Oppoſition, and have reaſon to beg all the Aſſiſtance we can poſſibly get; and therefore if his M. C. M. would ſtand by us a little in this Conjuncture, and help us with ſuch a Sum as 20000 *l.* Sterling, (which is no very great matter to venture upon ſuch an undertaking as this) I would be content to be Sacrific'd to the utmoſt Malice of my Enemies if I did not ſucceed; I have propos'd this ſeveral times to Monſieur *Rouvigny*, who ſeems always of my Opinion, and has often told me that he has writ into *France* upon this Subject, and has deſir'd me to do the like, but I know not whether he will be as Zealous in this Point as a Catholick would be; becauſe our prevailing in theſe things will give the greateſt Blow to the Proteſtant Religion here, that ever it receiv'd ſince its Birth, which perhaps he would not be very glad to ſee, eſpecially when he believes that there is another way of doing his Maſter's Buſineſs well enough without it, which is by a Diſſolution of the Parliament, upon which I know he mightily depends, and concludes, That if that comes to be Diſſolv'd, it will be as much as he need care for, proceeding perhaps upon the ſame manner of Diſcourſe which we did this time Twelve months; But with ſubmiſſion to his better Judgment, I do think that our caſe is extremely much alter'd from what it was then in relation to a Diſſolution; for then the Body of our Governing Miniſters, all but the Earl of *Arlington*, were entirely united to the Duke, and would have govern'd his way if they had been free from all fear and controul, as they would have been if the Parliament had been remov'd: But they having ſince that time engag'd in quite different Counſels, and Embark'd themſelves and Intereſts upon other Bottoms, having declar'd themſelves againſt Popery, *&c.* to Diſſolve the Parliament ſimply, and without any other ſtep made, will be to leave them to govern what way they liſt, which we have reaſon to ſuſpect will be to the prejudice of *France* and Catholicks, becauſe their late Declarations and Actions have demonſtrated to us, that they take that for the moſt Popular way for themſelves, and the likelieſt to keep them in Abſolute Power; whereas ſhould the Duke get above them after the Tricks they have ſerv'd him, they are not ſure he will totally forget the uſage he has had at their hands. Therefore it imports us now to advance our Intereſt a little farther by ſome ſuch Project as I have nam'd, before we Diſſolve the Parliament, or elſe perhaps we ſhall but change Maſters, a Parliament for Miniſters, and continue ſtill in the ſame Slavery and Bondage as before; But one ſuch ſtep as I have propos'd being well made, we may ſafely ſee them Diſſolv'd, and not fear the Miniſters, but ſhall be eſtabliſh'd and ſtand firm without any Oppoſition; for every body will then come over to us, and worſhip the Riſing Sun.

I have here given you the Hiſtory of Three Years, as ſhort as I could, though I am afraid it will ſeem very long and troubleſom to your R. among the Multitude of the Affairs you are engag'd in; I have alſo ſhewn you the preſent State of our Caſe, which may by God's Providence and good Conduct, be made of ſuch Advantage to God's Church, that for my part I can ſcarce believe my ſelf awake, or the thing real, when I think of a Prince, in ſuch an Age as we live in, converted to ſuch a degree of Zeal and Piety as not to regard any thing in the World in compariſon of God Almighty's Glory, the Salvation of his own Soul, and the Converſion of our poor Kingdom, which has a long time been oppreſs'd and miſerably hareſs'd by Hereſie and Schiſm. I doubt not but your R. will conſider our caſe and take it to heart, and afford us what help you can, both with the King of Heaven by your Holy Prayers, and with his M. C. M. by that great Credit which you moſt juſtly have with him; and if ever his Ma's Affairs, or your own, can ever want the Service of ſo inconſiderable a Creature as my ſelf, you ſhall never find any body readier to obey your Commands, or faithfuller in the execution of them to the beſt of his Power, than

29 *Sept.* 1675. *Your moſt Humble and moſt Obedient Servant.*

## *Father* le Chese *his Answer.*

### *From* Paris October 23. 1675.

*SIR,*

THE Letter which you gave your self the trouble to write to me, came to my hands but the last night. I read it with great satisfaction; and, I assure you, that its Length did not make it seem tedious. I should be very glad on my part, to assist in seconding your good Intentions; I will consider of the means to effect it; And when I am better informed than I am as yet, I will give you an Account: to the end I may hold Intelligence with you, as you did with my Predecessor. I desire you to believe, that I will never fail as to my good will, for the Service of your Master, whom I honour as much as he deserves, and that it is with great truth that I am *Lec' pro Reg.*

Your most humble, and most
obedient Servant,

*D. L. C.*

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## *A Second Letter from* Coleman *to Father* Le Chese.

*SIR,*

I Sent your Reverence a tedious long Letter, on our 29th of *September*, to inform you of the progress of Affairs, for these two or three years last past, I having now again the opportunity of a very sure hand to convey this by, I have sent you a Cypher, because our Parliament now drawing on, I may possibly have occasion to send you something which you may be willing enough to know, and may be necessary for us that you should, when we may want the conveniency of a Messenger. When any thing occurs of more Concern, other than which may not be fit to be trusted, even to a Cypher alone, I will, to make such a thing more secure, write in Lemmon between the Lines of a Letter, which shall have nothing in it visible, but what I care not who sees, but dried by a warm fire, shall discover what is written; so that if the Letter comes to your hands, and upon drying it, any thing appears more than did before, you may be sure no body has seen it by the way. I will not trouble you with that way of writing, but upon special occasions, and then I will give you a hint to direct you to look for it, by concluding my visible Letter with something of Fire, or burning, by which mark you may please to know, that there is something underneath, and how my Letter is to be used to find it out. *We have here a mighty Work*

*upon our hands, no leſs than the Converſion of three Kingdoms, and by that perhaps the ſubduing of a Peſtilent Hereſie, which has domineered over great part of this Northern World a long time, there were never ſuch hopes of Succeſs ſince the Death of Queen* Mary, *as now in our dayes*: When God has given us a Prince who is become (may I ſay, a Miracle) zealous of being the Author and Inſtrument of ſo glorious a Work; but the oppoſition we are ſure to meet with, is alſo like to be great: ſo that it imports us to get all the Aid and Aſſiſtance we can, for *the Harveſt is great, and the Labourers but few.* That which we rely upon moſt, next to God Almighty's Providence, and the favour of my Maſter, the Duke, is the mighty Mind of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, whoſe generous Soul inclines him to great Undertakings, which being managed by your Reverence's exemplary Piety and Prudence, will certainly make him look upon this as moſt ſutable to himſelf, and beſt becoming his Power and Thoughts; ſo that I hope you will pardon me if I be very troubleſome to you upon this occaſion, from whom I expect the greateſt help we can hope for. I muſt confeſs, I think his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's Temporal Intereſt is ſo much attracted to that of his *R. H.* (which can never be conſiderable, but upon the growth and Advancement of the Catholick Religion) that his Miniſters cannot give him better Advice, even in a Politick ſenſe, abſtracting from the Conſiderations of the next World, that of our bleſſed Lord, to ſeek firſt the *Kingdom of Heaven, and the Righteouſneſs thereof*, that *all other things* may be *added unto* him. That I know his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty has more powerful Motives ſuggeſted to him by his own Devotion, and your Reverence's Zeal for God's Glory, to engage him to afford us the beſt help he can in our preſent Circumſtances. But we are a little unhappy in this, that we cannot preſs his Majeſty, by his preſent Miniſter here, upon theſe latter Arguments (which are moſt ſtrong) but onely upon the firſt, Monſieur *Rouvigny*'s Senſe and ours differing very much upon them, though we agree perfectly upon the reſt: And indeed, though he be a very able man, as to his Maſter's Service, in things wherein Religion is not concerned; yet I believe it were much more happy (conſidering the poſture he is now in) that his temper were of ſuch a ſort, that we might deal clearly with him throughout, and not be forc'd to ſtep ſhort in a Diſcourſe of Conſequence, and leave the moſt material part out, becauſe we know it will ſhock his particular opinion, and ſo perhaps meet with Diſlike and Oppoſition, though never ſo neceſſary to the main Concern. I am afraid we ſhall find too much reaſon for this Complaint in this next Seſſion of Parliament: for, had we had one here from his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, who had taken the whole Buſineſs to heart, and who would have repreſented the ſtate of our caſe truly, as it is to his

Maſter,

Maſter, I do not doubt but his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty would have ingaged himſelf further in the Affair than at preſent I fear he has done, and by his Approbation have given ſuch Counſels as have been offered to his Royal Highneſs by thoſe few Catholicks who have acceſs to him, and who are bent to ſerve him, and advance the Catholick Religion, with all their Might, and might have more Credit with his Royal Highneſs than I fear they have found, and have aſſiſted them alſo with his Purſe, as far as 10000 Crowns, or ſome ſuch Sum, (which to him is very inconſiderable, but would have been to them of greater Uſe than can be imagined) towards gaining others to help them, or, at leaſt, not to oppoſe them. If we had been ſo happy as to have had his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty with us to this degree, I would have anſwered with my Life for ſuch Succeſs this Seſſions, as would have put the Intereſt of the Catholick Religion, his R. Highneſs, and his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, out of all danger for the time to come; but wanting thoſe helps of recommending thoſe neceſſary Counſels which have been given his *R. H.* in ſuch manner as to make him think them worth his accepting, and fit to govern himſelf by, and of thoſe Advantages which a little Money well managed would have gained us, I am afraid we ſhall not be much better at the end of this Seſſions, than we are now: I pray God we do not lo'e ground; by my next, which will be e're long, I ſhall be able to tell your Reverence more particularly what we are like to expect; in the mean time, I moſt humbly beg your holy Prayers for all our Undertakings, and that you will be pleaſed to honour me ſo far as to eſteem me what I am intirely, and without reſerve,

*Mon tres Reverend Pere,*
*le Votre R.*
*Le plus humble plus obeiſant*
*Serviteur.*

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## Coleman's *Letter to Monſieur* le Cheſe, *the* French *King's Confeſſor, in the Duke of* York's *name.*

ON the Second of *June* laſt, his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty offered me very generouſly his Friendſhip, and his Purſe too, for my aſſiſtance againſt the Deſigns of my Enemies and his, and proteſted to me, that his Intereſts and mine were ſo ſtrictly bound up together, that ſuch as oppoſed either, ought to be look'd upon as the Enemies of the other; and told me beſides his thoughts of my Lord *Arlington*, and of the Parliament, which are, that he doth not believe that either the one or the other were favourable to his Intereſts, or to mine, and thereupon he deſired me to make him ſuch Propoſitions as I ſhould think fit

fit for this Conjuncture. All this happened by the Interpoſition of *F. Ferrier*, who made uſe of Sir *William Throckmorton*, a good and honeſt man, who was then at *Paris*, and has correſponded with *Coleman*, one of my Domeſticks, in whom I put great confidence.

As I was very well ſatisfied to ſee that his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty was altogether of my opinion, I returned him an Anſwer on the twenty ninth of *June*, by the ſame conveyance by which he writ me, that is, by *Coleman*, who directed it to *F. Ferrier*, by the ſaid Sir *William Throckmorton*; and I agreed intirely with him, as well concerning the Union of our Intereſts, as how uſeleſs my Lord *A.* and the Parliament were to the King, my Brother, and his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and that it was very neceſſary for us to make uſe of all our Credit joyntly, for preventing the Succeſs of the evil Deſigns that my Lord *Ar.* and the Parliamentarians have formed againſt his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty and me, which I promiſed to do faithfully, on my part, and whereof I have given ſince that time ſufficient teſtimonies; after this, I made ſome Propoſitions that I thought fit for the accompliſhment of what we were oblig'd to undertake, aſſuring him, that nothing could ſupport our Intereſts ſo ſtrongly with the King, my Brother, than the making him the ſame Offers of his Purſe, by the aſſiſtance whereof, I had great reaſon to hope, that I ſhould be capable of perſwading him to diſſolve the Parliament, and of fruſtrating the Intrigues of my Lord *Ar.* who endeavours continually to advance the Credit of the Prince of *Orange* and the *Dutch*, and to diminiſh that of the King, your Maſter, notwithſtanding all the Proteſtations he now makes to ſerve him.

But as our Propoſitions were delay'd by the ſickneſs of *F. Ferr.* our Buſineſs did not ſucceed according to our deſire, onely the Father writ me word on the fifteenth of the laſt Month, that he had communicated the Propoſitions that I directed to him from his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and that they were very acceptable unto him; but as they contained two things, one that concerned the Catholick Religion, and the other the offer of his Purſe, he gave me to underſtand, that he did not deſire I ſhould treat with Monſieur *Rovigny* upon the former; but for the latter, he told me at the ſame time, that *Monſieur Rovigny* had order to concur with me in all that the Conjuncture of Our Affairs ſhould make appear neceſſary. I have expected the Effects thereof until this time, but nothing being done, and perceiving beſides, that my Lord *Ar.* and many others endeavour, by a thouſand Tricks, to break off the good Underſtanding that is between the King my Brother, his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and me, for the deceiving of all Three; I have thought fit to acquaint you with all that is paſt, and to ask your Aſſiſtance and Friendſhip for preventing the Knavery of all thoſe that have no other Deſign than to betray the Concerns of *France* and *England* too, and by their pretended Services, occaſion their Diſappointment.

I do refer you farther to Sir *William Throckmorton*, and to *Coleman*, whom I have commanded to acquaint you with the particulars of our Affairs, and the true State of *England*, that many others, and principally my Lord *Ar.* endeavoured to repreſent to you quite otherwiſe than it is; and theſe two firſt are very much addicted to my Intereſts, ſo that you may treat with them freely, and without any apprehenſion.

One

*One of the Letters which could not be Decyphered by the Keys found.*

*Rome, January* 12. 1675.

It is certain, that the beſt way to render himſelf Maſter of the Kings Will, and to take him off from the Amity with the Parliament, is that of Money, and I doubt not but the Duke may by it make himſelf abſolute upon his ſpirit, and take for his pureſt and for that of the Catholicks the advantages which you obſerve in your laſt Letter, but when the Pope himſelf ſhall have the means to do that which ſhall be neceſſary in his Affair, which is very much beyond his power, for the reaſons I gave when I had the happineſs to ſee you, and of which I advertiſed you in many Letters, he can never be preſſed with Reaſon to do it, but upon more ſolid foundations, and more probable aſſurances for the good of Religion and of the Catholicks, which are not yet ſuch, as are contained in the diſcourſe mentioned in your laſt Letter, that which you propoſe touching 51666279669961 which is, 667177576661676676 cannot be put in execution 566662516 756665667 but with the 7776999166996167976699 61 of all 51679177 66629664996719 and onely 667191776691 compriſing 9666999151679 19147151416791 you may then conſider, if in the Lands where they are at preſent 5167916654566646267919680204. It would be to purpoſe for the Intereſt of the Duke, to put in publick an affair of ſuch a nature as this, of which I aſſure you with truth, and the Duke may be perſwaded is what 669977669165645191676276646171996476716251679766649161626796 3204 will imploy 6681272 and 5108126 and 51677762679 6646 for 5166919164916167626662679161669451646451665166812666799 81204 ſeeing that *Rome* and the Emperor have a moſt particular zeal and affection for all that which regard it. As for *Gabriel* he doth imploy himſelf both with the one and the other, with the ſame paſſion he always had for the Dukes ſervice, and you will ſee, it may be, very ſhortly marks of it. It is ſaid here, that the King hath not for ſome time been in good health, adviſe me how it is, and of our Commerce you may continue till farther order, to ſend me your Letters by the ſame way you have done to this time. I am, without reſerve,

*Your moſt Humble and affectionate Servant*

ALBANY.

*The Cypher which I put into the hands of* 300, *and that you may have from him, will ſerve you to Decipher that which is above.*

*There was ſeveral Faculties and Inſtruments found in the hands of one of the Five Jeſuits, and of* Mr. Daniel Arthur, *which follow in the Original* Latin, *and Tranſlated into* Engliſh.

Facultates pro Reverendiſſimo Domino *Joanne Laket*, Sacerdote Anglo, in Regnis *Angliæ*, *Scotiæ*, aliiſque Dominiis Legis *Magnæ Britanniæ*, excepta *Hibernia*.

I. *Absolvendi ab Hæreſi, & Apoſtaſiâ à Fide & Schiſmate queſcunque, etiam Eccleſiaſticos, tam Seculares quam Regulares, non tamen eos qui ex Laicis fuerint ubi Sanctum Officium exercetur, niſi in Locis Miſſionum in quibus impune graſſantur Hæreſes, deliquerit, nec illos qui Judicialiter Abjuraverint, niſi ipſi nati ſint ubi impune graſſantur Hæreſes, & poſt Judicialem Abjurationem illuc reverſi in Hæreſin fuerint Relapſi, & his in foro Conſcientiæ tantum.*

II. *Abſolvendi in omnibus Caſibus, etiam in Bullâ Cœnæ.*

III. *Diſpenſandi in tertio & quarto ſimplici & mixto Conſanguinitatis & Affinitatis gradibus in contractis Matrimoniis cum perſonis Catholicis, aut Hæreſin relinquentibus, idque in foro Conſcientiæ tantum, & prolem ſuſceptam Legitimam declarandi.*

IV. *Reſtituendi Jus petendi debitum amiſſum.*

V. *Adminiſtrandi omnia Sacramenta, etiam Parochalia, Ordine & Confirmatione exceptis.*

VI. *Celebrandi Miſſam quocunque loco decenti, etiam ſub dio, ſub terrâ, una hora ante Aurora, & alia poſt Meridiem, bis in die ſi Neceſſitas cogat; ſi tamen in prima Miſſa non ſumpſerit ablutionem: & ſuper Altari portabili, etiam fracto aut læſo, ſive Sanctorum Reliquiis & præſentibus Hæreticis aliiſque Excommunicatis, ſi aliter celebrari non poſſit, etſi non ſit periculum Sacrilegii, dummodo inſervient Miſſæ, non ſit Hereticus, & Excommunicatus.*

VII. *Deſerendi ſanctiſſimum Sacramentum occultè ad Infirmos ſine lumine, ubi eſt periculum.*

VIII. *Recitandi Roſarium, vel alias Preces, ſi Breviarium ſecum deferre non poſſit, vel Officium divinum, ob aliud legitimum Impedimentum, recitare non habent.*

IX. *Tenendi & Legendi quoſque Libros prohibitos, præter contentis in Bullâ Cœnæ, & præter opera* Caroli Molinei, Nicolai Machiavelli, *& Libris de Aſtrologiâ Judiciariâ, vel incidenter, vel alio quovis modo tractantes; dandi etiam Licentiam Laicis ex juſtâ cauſâ, ut Libros Catholicorum contra Hæreticos, Anglico Idiomate ſcriptos, & Sacras Scripturas, in idem Ideoma fideliter verſas, legant.*

X. *Diſpenſandi & comutandi vota ſimplicia ex rationabili Cauſæ, exceptis Votis Caſtitatis & Religionis.*

XI. *Benedicendi paramenta & alia Utenſilia ad Sacrificium Miſſæ neceſſarium, ubi non intervenit Unctio.*

XII. *Diſpenſandi quando expedire videtur ſuper eſu Carnium, Ovorum, & Lactiniorum, etiam tempore Quadrageſimo.*

XIII. *Concedendi Indulgentiam plenariam primo converſis ab Hæreſi, & fidelibus quibuſcunque, in articulo mortis ſaltem contritis, ſi Confiteri non poſſint.*

XIV.

XIV. *Concedendi ſingulis Dominicis aliiſque Diebus Feſtis decem annorum Indulgentiam iis qui ejus Concionibus intervenerint, & plenaria iis qui previa Sacramentali peccatorum ſuorum Confeſſione, ſacram Euchariſtiam ſument in Feſtis Natalis Domini, Paſchalis, & Aſſumtionis Beatiſſimæ Virginis.*

XV. *Lucrandi ſibi eiſdem Indulgentiis,*

XVI. *Singulis ſecundis Feriis, non impeditis Officio, novem Lectionum, vel iis impeditis, die immediate ſequenti celebrando Miſſam, de Requiem in quacunque Altari etiam portabili, abòrandi animam ſecundum ejus Intentionem à Purgatorii pœnis per modum ſuffragii, quas facultates concedimus & ſeptennium duntaxat duraturus, Ita tamen ut antea revocari etiam poſſint ad beneplacitum noſtrum ſine ullius Cauſæ expreſſione, eaſque manu noſtra firmavimus, Die* 25 *Menſis* Junii, 1678.

Per Cardinalis *Barbarinus* Protector.
*Chriſt.* Abbas Blancas Secretarius.

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*Faculties and Priviledges granted to the Right Reverend Father* John Laket *an* Engliſh *Prieſt; to be by him extended unto, and executed in the Kingdoms of* England *and* Scotland, *and all other the Dominions of the King of* Great Britain, *except* Ireland.

I. OF Abſolving all ſorts of perſons from Hereſie, Apoſtacy, and Schiſm, & that Eccleſiaſticks or Religious, both Secular and Regular, as well as others: providing they did not live where the *Roman* Worſhip was uſed or practiſed. Yet always allowing that theſe may be Abſolved, who in the way and places of their Miſſion, are thorough the power and prevalency of Hereſie forced and laid under a neceſſity of concealing themſelves. However, they are not to be Abſolved, who having judicially and according to Forms of Law, abjured and renounced their Hereſie, do nevertheleſs withdraw and abſent themſelves from the Catholick Worſhip, unleſs they be ſuch as are born and do live where Hereſie univerſally obtaineth, as being eſtabliſhed by Authority, or ſuch who through their being caſt into ſuch places, have after the abjuration of their Hereſie relapſed into it. And theſe are to be Abſolved and Pardoned only, as to what reſpects Conſcience.

Miſſionaries, are thoſe who are ſent to ſpread the Popiſh Doctrine in Proteſtant Kingdoms, &c.

II. Of Abſolving and Acquitting in and about all Caſes, even thoſe which are contained in the *Bulla Cœnæ*, or the Bull of the Supper or Sacrament.

III. Of Diſpenſing and allowing a liberty to Catholicks, and ſuch who have forſaken the Proteſtant Hereſie, to Marry within the Third and Fourth Degrees (whether ſimple or mixed) of Kindred and Conſanguinity, and of declaring their Off ſpring and Iſſue Legitimate, yet ſo, that this Diſpenſation do only extend to Conſcience.

IV. Of granting a liberty, and allowing a right to all from whom due benevolence hath been withheld, or to whom upon any pretence it hath been refuſed, of demanding and claiming the Duties of the Marriage-Bed.

V. Of Adminiſtring all the Sacraments, except tho[illegible] Order and Confirmation.

VI. Of ſaying and celebrating Maſs in any vacant place whatſoever, whether it be in the open fields, or in Vaults and Cellars, and that in caſe of neceſſi-

ty,

ty, it ſhall be lawful to perform this twice a day, *viz.* once in the morning, and once at noon, provided he have not at the firſt Maſs received the Ablution. And this may alſo Celebrate upon any moveable Altar, though defaced or broken, and without ſacred Relicks. Yea, if it cannot be otherwiſe conveniently performed, it ſhall be lawful to adminiſter in the preſence of Hereticks, and other Excommunicated perſons, provided always that there be no danger of Sacriledge, and that he who ſerveth, aſſiſteth, and Miniſtreth unto him at the ſaid Maſs, be neither an Heretick nor Excommunicated perſon.

Ablution, is the Prieſts having dipt his fingers in the Cup which leaving upon the Altar till he have waſhed his hands, he afterwards returns & drinks up.

Altars Portatile, is any Conſecrated piece of Board or Stone, which the Prieſt carries about with him to Celebrate the Euchariſt upon.

VII. Of carrying the Sacrament to any who are ſick, and in caſes of danger, without Lights or Torches.

VIII. Of rehearſing the Roſary, or any other Prayers, when he cannot carry his Breviary about with him, or when by reaſon of ſome lawful hindrance or impediment he cannot repeat the Divine Office.

IX. Of keeping and reading all ſorts and kinds of Prohibited Books, except ſuch which are contained in the *Bulla Cœnæ*, and the Book of *Charles Molinæus*, and *Nicholas Machiavel*, and ſuch Books which either deſignedly or occaſionally Treat of Judiciary Aſtrology. And of allowing upon a juſt and weighty cauſe a liberty to Lay-people to read ſuch Catholick Books as are written in Engliſh againſt Hereticks, and of reading the Sacred Scripture, provided they be faithfully Tranſlated into the *Engliſh* Tongue.

X. Of Diſpenſing with, making Commutation and exchange about, ſimple and naked Vows, unleſs they be Vowes of Chaſtity, and of entring into Holy Orders.

XI. Of bleſſing all the Accoutrements *(paramenta)* and Utenſils required or needful for the Celebration of the Maſs, except they be ſuch which ought to be Conſecrated.

XII. Of allowing Diſpenſations for the Eating of Fleſh, Eggs, and all Meats made or prepared of Milk, at all times when it ſhall be judged convenient, though it be in the very ſeaſon of Lent.

XIII. Of granting a Plenary Indulgence, or a Pardon from all ſins, to all and every perſon and perſons, at and upon your firſt Converſion from Hereſie, and the like to all Catholicks at the hour of Death, though they be not in a condition to make Confeſſion, providing onely, that they be penitent and contrite.

XIV. Of granting every Sunday and every Holy-day an Indulgence from all Sin for ten years, to ſuch as have been preſent at the Sermons or Religious Worſhip: And a plenary Indulgence from all their Sins during their whole Life to ſuch, who having firſt made Confeſſion, do receive the Euchariſt at the Feaſt of the Nativity of our Bleſſed Lord, the Feaſt of Eaſter, and the Feaſt of the Aſſumption of the Bleſſed Virgin.

XV. That the ſaid Reverend may take the benefit of all theſe Indulgences himſelf, and be participant of all theſe Pardons.

XVI. He ſhall have Power and Authority every other day, unleſs prevented by the Office of the *Nine* Leſſons; and in caſe he be ſo let or hindred, he ſhall then have Power and Authority the day following, of Freeing and Redeeming any one Soul, whom he pleaſeth, from the Pains and Torments of Purgatory; and upon his ſaying and celebrating the Maſs for the Dead, called *De Requie*, upon any portable or moveable Altar.

And theſe Faculties and Priviledges we grant and allow, to continue and endure, for, and during the time of ſeven years; yet ſo, as without the aſſigning any cauſe or reaſon, we may revoke and recal them before the expiration of that time, if we be ſo pleaſed, and it ſeem good unto us.

And theſe Faculties we have Ratified and Confirmed under our hand the 25th of *June*, 1678. *Card. Barberini Protector.*

*Chriſtoph. Abbas Blancas* Secretary.

*The like Faculties are granted to all Romiſh Prieſts who are here in* England.

*Ludovicus*

## *Cardinal* Vendoſms *faculty to the Cannons Regular of St.* Auguſtins *in the* Gallican *Church.*

LUDOVICUS Sanctæ Mariæ in porticu Diaconus Cardinalis de Vendoſme, nun'ctus ad ſereniſſimum Dominum, Dominum Ludovicum Franciæ & NavarræRegem Chriſtianiſſimum, & univerſum illius Regnum illiuſq; Provincius Dominia, Civitates oppida terras & Loca eidem Regi ſubjecta dictoq; regno adjacentia cæteraq; alia Loca ad quæ nos declinare contigerit, S.D N Clementis Divina Providentia Papæ IX. & ſedis Apoſtolicæ a latere Legatus. Dilectis nobis in Chriſto filiis Canoniciæ Regularibus Sancti Auguſtini, Gallicanæ Congregationis pro Converſione Infidelium, Hereticorum & Schiſmaticorum in Domino ſalutem & benedictionem ſempiternam; Nos igitur de veſtra Pietate Charitate prudentia integritate ſcientia & experientia plene confidentes ſperanteſq; quod ea quæ vobis duxerimus committenda ſollicite fideliterque gerere & adminiſtrare curabitis id circo vos ex noſtra ſcientia liberaq; & ſpontanea voluntate magnos Miſſionarios & pœnitentiarios Apoſtolicos fecimus & conſtituimus facimuſq; & conſtituimus vobiſq ; pleniſſimam conceſſimus & concedimus facultatem verbum Divinum prædicandi confeſſiones quorum eumq; pœnitentium Sacramentaliter audiendi ipſiſq; obſolutionis beneficium impertiendi ab omnibus caſibus & cenſuris aut aliis quomodocumq; ſanctæ ſedi & Epiſcopis reſervatis abſolvendi, Sacramenta quæcunq; excepta confirmatione & ordinatione admittrandi ; in votis exceptis caſtitatis & Religionis & Juramentis cum Juſta cauſa ſubeſt diſpenſandi ſicut etiam in obſervatione Jejuniorum aliiſq; Legibus Eccleſiaſticis, neo non in irregularitatibus quibus Libet ex delicto occulto provenientibus, aliiſq; omnibus & quibuſcumq; caſibus in quibus ſummus Pontifex diſpenſare poteſt Libros prohibitos legendi & Hæreticos in græmium Eccleſiæ recepiendi dummodo errores ſuos hæreſes & ſchiſmata coram notario & teſtibus publice vel privatim deteſtati fuerint abjuraverint & anathematiſaverint injuncta eis pro modo culpæ pœnitentia ſalutari, Deniq; omnia dicendi gerendi decernendi & exequendi quæ ad munas Miſſionariorum & magnorum pœnitentiariorum pertinet in quorum omnium & ſingulorum fidem præſentes litteras manu noſtra ſignavimus ac ſigilli noſtri appoſitione voluimus communiri Datum pariſiis die vigeſima Maij milleſimo ſexcentiſimo ſexageſimo octavo pn'tus ejuſdem, S.D.N. Papæ anno primo.

L. Cardinalis de Vendoſme Leg.

Locus Sigilli.

De Bontils Auditor & Secretarius Legationis.

## *Engliſh'd, as followeth.*

LEWIS of *Vendoſme*, Cardinal; Deacon of *Sancta Maria* in Portico, Legate a Latere from our Holy Lord CLEMENT the Ninth, by the Divine Providence Pope; and from the Apoſtolic See, to the moſt Serene Lord LEWIS the moſt Chriſtian King of *France* and *Navarre*, and to his whole Kingdom and all his

Provinces, Dominions, Cities, Towns, Lands, and places belonging to the ſaid King, and adjacent to his ſaid Kingdom, and to all other places where We ſhall happen to come: To Our dearly beloved Sons in Chriſt the Canons Regular of St. *Auguſtine* of the *Gallican* Congregation for the Converſion of Infidels, Hereticks, and Schiſmaticks, Greeting in the Lord and Eternal Benediction. We fully confiding in your Piety, Charity, Prudence, Integrity, Knowledge, and Experience, and hoping that what we have thought fit to intruſt unto you, you will carefully and faithfully manage and adminiſter, Have therefore made and conſtituted, make and conſtitute you of Our knowledge and free and meer motion, great *Miſſionaries* and *Apoſtolical Penitentiaries*: And we have granted, and do grant unto you full Power of Preaching the Divine Word, and of hearing Sacramentally the Confeſſions of all Penitents, and to impart unto them the benefit of Abſolution from all Caſes and Cenſures; and of Abſolving from all things in any manner reſerved unto the Holy See, or unto Biſhops; of Adminiſtring all Sacraments, except Confirmation and Ordination; and of diſpenſing with Vows, except thoſe of Chaſtity and Religion, *and with Oaths where there is juſt cauſe*, as alſo with the Obſervation of Faſts and other Eccleſiaſtical Laws, and all *Irregularities* whatſoever proceeding from a *hidden ſin*, and all other Caſes whatſoever where the Pope can Diſpenſe. And of reading forbidden Books, and receiving Hereticks into the boſom of the Church, provided they do deteſt, abjure, and anathematize their Errors, Hereſies and Schiſms before Witneſſes Publickly or Privately, enjoyning unto them a ſalutary Penance according to the meaſure of the fault. Laſtly, of ſaying, doing, decreeing and performing all things belonging to the Office of Miſſionaries and great Penitentiaries. *In Teſtimony* whereof We have Signed theſe preſent Letters with Our Hand, and Sealed them with Our Seal.

Given at *Paris* the 20th. of *May* 1668. and in the firſt Year of Our ſaid Holy Lord.

L. Cardinalis de *Vendoſme* Legatus

De *Bontils* Auditor & Secretarius Legationis.

The place of the Seal.

## *An Inſtrument conſtituting* Benedict Stapilton, *Prior of* Canterbury.

NOS Fr. *Auguſtinus* Hungate Præsbiter & Monachus Ordinis S. Benedicti Congregationis Anglicanæ ejuſdem ordinis Præſes Generalis, *&c.* Reverendo in Chriſto Patri ac confratri noſtro Patri Benedicto Stapilton ejuſdem congregationis Præsbitero & Monacho Electo Priori Cathedralis Eccleſiæ Cantuarienſis ſalutem in Chriſto ſempiternam.

Viſa Electione perſonæ Reverentiæ tuæ in Priorem prædictæ Eccleſiæ conventuſque Cathedralis Cantuarienſis Canonice & legittime celebrata, acceptaque de more obedientia Reverentiæ tuæ nobis & ſucceſſoribus noſtris promiſſa in ſcriptis exhibita facta quoque per Reverentiam tuam publica Catholicæ fidei profeſſione juxta ſacri Tridentini Concilii Canones & Bullam Pii Quarti Pontificis Maximi, Authoritate Sæ. Sedis Apoſtolicæ, necnon & Capli noſtri Gralis qua utraque hac in parte

fungimur

fungimur Reverendam & delectam nobis fraternitatem tuam Reverendè in Christo Pater Benedicte *Stapleton* in dicto Prioris Cathedralis Officio ac dignitate tenore presentium Confirmamus: Mandantes prout per presentes pariter mandamus Conventui Cathedralis Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis præfatæ, omnibusque ac singulis monachis quatenus Reverendam Paternitatem tuam pro vero Priore suo Cathedrali legitimoque suo Superiore ac Prælato regulari recipiant, habeant agnoscant, & eidem reverenter juxta constitutiones nostras obsequantur In quorum fidem has confirmationis literas nomine nostro Secretariisque nostri subscriptas & Sigillo magno Sanctæ Congregationis nostræ munitas expediri jussimus. Datum *Londini* 14 *Maii*. Anno Domini 1666.

Fr Aug. Hungate Præses Gralis

De mandato admodum R. Præsidis

Fr. Gulielmus a Sancto Benedicto Secretarius Præsidii.

Locus Sigilli.

## *Englished as followeth.*

WE Fr. *Augustine Hungate*, Priest and Monk of the *English* Congregation of the Order of St. *Benet*, and general President of the same Order, *&c.* To the Reverend Father in Christ, and our fellow Brother, Father *Benedict Stapilton*, Priest and Monk of the same Order, Elected Prior of the Cathedral Church of *Canterbury*; do wish Eternal Happiness in Christ.

Having seen Testimonial Letters wherein your Reverence is declared to be Lawfully and Canonically chosen Prior of the said Church and Convent of the Cathedral of *Canterbury*; and having according to form and custom received the Obedience which your Reverence hath exhibited in Writing and promised to us and our Successors: And your Reverence having also made a publick Confession of the Catholick Faith according to the Canons of the Council of *Trent*, and the Bull of Pope *Pius* the IV.

We by the Authority of the holy Apostolical See, as also of our general Chapter whose power we in this execute, and whose place we discharge; do by these presents confirm you the Reverend Father in Christ *Benedict Stapilton* in the Office and Dignity of Prior of the said Cathedral, and we do by these our Authentick Letters, charge and require the Convent of the aforesaid Church of *Canterbury*, and all and several the Monks thereof, that they receive, esteem, and acknowledge your Reverence for the true Prior of that Cathedral, and as their lawful Superior and regular Prelate, and that with all Humility and Reverence they obey you according to the Constitutions of our Order. In Testimony whereof we have subscribed these Letters with our own Name, and have caused them to be subscribed by our Secretary, and have also commanded that they be Sealed with the great Seal of our Holy Order. Dated at *London*, May 14. 1666.

Fr. *Augustine Hungate*, President General.

The place of the Seal.

By the Command of the most reverend President.
Fr. *William* St. *Bennet*, Secretary of the President.

FINIS.